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In Reviewing Volume the Third, in No. 248, it is observed:

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PREFACE.

A Preface to this Volume would have been deemed perfectly unnecessary, had not the obliging attention of several respectable individuals rendered some acknowledgement of their kindness my obvious duty.

For the chief portion of the valuable Articles on AMERICAN ANTIQUITIES I am indebted to publications but little known on this side the Atlantic; such as Kilbourn's Ohio Gazetteer, Mc. Murtrie's Sketches of Louisville, the Picture of Cincinnati, and the Archæologia Americana. The latter Publication was politely supplied by Mr. John Smith of Liverpool; and all the former, with others not mentioned, but equally valuable, by J. P. Foote, Esq. of Cincinnati.

To my worthy and esteemed Friend R. Hilditch, Esq. late of Cottage Grove, Shrewsbury, who visited the United States in 1822, I am also indebted for several interesting books and some valuable Original information.

My acknowledgements to those kind-hearted and respectable Friends, in various parts of the kingdom, who have recommended the Work, and obtained for it the patronage of so many Subscribers, will be gratefully recollected in the Preface to the succeeding Volume.

To the Editors of various Periodical Publications, who have honoured the former Volumes by making extracts accompanied with their notice and approbation, I desire to express my sense of obligation. Nor have I been

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less encouraged by the letters and good opinions of private individuals of high excellence, intelligence, and respectability; with some of whom it has subsequently been my happiness to form friendships of the most agreeable, and I trust the most durable nature.

The plan of the "Americanum" is precisely the same as that of the preceding Volumes, and the execution, in general, it is believed, will be found not inferior. Should it obtain an equal share of that good will, bestowed on its predecessors, I shall esteem myself doubly repaid for all those hours of reading and reflection stolen from periods of rest and refreshment, and devoted to writing or preparing the various Articles for the press.

As an Appendix to the Volume on Africa, I still intend to publish the interesting Narrative furnished by Mr. W. Lee, (variously cited in the Africanum) and some other Communications I am in daily expectation of receiving from John Thursfield Pierce, Esq. of Cape Coast Castle. These additions will render that volume of corresponding size and price with the present.

I have now only to observe, that no exertions will be withheld to render the next and last Volume as interesting as possible. The EUROPEAN SOIL is indeed *more prolific* than the Asian, African, or American: but the *difficulty* of making a NOVEL or RARE Selection of blossoms from a GARDEN, the principal flowers of which have been so variously and industriously culled, tied up and presented to the public under the denomination of "WONDERS OF NATURE AND ART, CURIOSITIES, &c." *is, indeed, most sensibly felt.*

CHARLES HULBERT.

Shrewsbury, Dec. 24th. 1823.

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PART III.—CHAP. I.

AMERICAN ANTIQUITIES.

Ancient Cities, Temples, Palaces, Castles, Monuments, &c.

GENERAL VIEW OF AMERICA,

By the Editor, with the aid of Private Communications and Published Authorities.

HOW insignificant the conquerors and heroes of ancient or modern times must appear, when compared with COLUMBUS, the DISCOVERER of a New World. The treachery and deceit of a Portugese King, the mutinous impatience of ignorant sailors, the ingratitude of Ferdinand and the Spanish nation, are only so many incentives to our admiration of the man, who has atchieved more for the benefit of his race, than all the kings and emperors who have ever lived. PROVIDENCE, with the benificent intention of preparing an assylum for the oppressed of all nations, and of giving to freedom a permanent sanctuary, no doubt, directed the passage of this enterprising GENOESE, through the then unknown and trackles Atlantic: But, though the humble instrument of an Almighty power, he is, notwithstanding, an object of the grateful recollection of mankind.

AMERICA, since its first discovery by Columbus, in the year 1492, has not ceased to be the subject of European desire and enquiry. Volumes of travels, tours, and local histories, have in various periods, served to amuse and to inform the naturalist, the antiquary, and the general reader: but we may fairly calculate that not one half the wonders of the immense regions of Columbia have yet been brought to view.

The length of America, from north to south, is more than nine thousand miles, and its greatest width four thousand six hundred. The objects which it presents to our notice, are chiefly distinguished by their grandeur and magnificence. The *operations of nature* seem here to have been conducted on a larger scale, and with a greater proportion of materials than in any other quarter of the globe. All is noble and majestic. The Alps and the Pyrennees, those long celebrated mountains of Europe, sink into insignificance before the Andes or Cordilleras. Chimborazo, the loftiest point of the Andes hitherto known, has nearly five thousand feet of elevation greater than that of the highest mountain in Europe. As the mountains of the new world are elevated and grand, so its plains are extensive and beautiful. In some places, and at certain seasons of the year the eye feels its imperfection when it attempts to look over the verdant surface of these plains; and the traveller wishes in vain for rocks and woods to relieve his sight. In other parts, there are forests widely extended and almost impenetrable, except to the animals which inhabit them, or to the savages by whom those animals are pursued. Its rivers and lakes are equally remarkable. Of the former, the Plata, the Oronoko, the Marignon or Amazon, and the Mississippi, flow in such spacious channels, that, towards the lower part of their course, they resemble arms of the sea, rather than streams of fresh water. In dimensions and extent they far exceed any of the rivers of the old continent. In North America a chain of lakes extends from east to west. These are of magnitude so immense, that they are rather like inland seas than lakes, and, except the Caspian Sea, they exceed in size the greatest collections of water which any other part of the globe can boast.

In Europe and Asia mankind, and the distinctions of civilization, form the principal features which interest the traveller and the historian. In the new world, man and his productions almost disappear amidst the stupendous display of wild and gigantic nature. The human race here either presents but a few remnants of indigenous hordes, slightly advanced in civilization, or it presents that uniformity of manners and institutions which are observable in the European colonists. But if America occupy no very important place in the history of mankind, and those revolutions which have agitated the human race, it offers an ample field to the labours of the naturalist. A luxuriance of vegetation, an eternal spring of organic life, climates varying by stages as we climb the sides of the Andes: and the means afforded for the study of geology, mineralogy, and natural philosophy, infinitely exceed those of any other part of the world.

With respect to the *original inhabitants* of America. There are few inquiries more interesting to a philosophic mind, than that which would explain the original peopling of this great continent. Various conjectures have been formed on the subject. Some writers have ascribed the first settlements in America to the Canaanites; and others to the Phœnicians, to the Carthaginians, to the Greeks, to the Scythians, and to other nations. But, to account for these settlements, by supposing that, in a remote period, some vessel may have accidently been driven thither from the eastern parts of the world, is to rely upon a rather improbable conjecture. Other writers are inclined to think, that the two continents of America and Africa were originally united, and that they were subsequently severed by some violent convulsion of nature. This likewise is a conjecture, unsupported by evidence. An inspection of a map of the world, however, will show that, at this day, the north-eastern part of Siberia, and the north-west part of America, are nearly joined; that is, they are separated by a strait not more than twenty miles in width; and that, in a lower latitude, a chain of islands reaches almost from one shore to the other. The inhabitants of these opposite shores resemble each other

in features, complexion, manners, habits, and customs, and it is far from improbable, that some families or tribes of wandering Tartars may have migrated across *Behring's Straits*, and may thus have given origin to the population of America. Among all the American tribes, the Esquimaux excepted, there is a great resemblance, both in form of body, and in qualities of mind; and in every prevailing feature, both of person and disposition, they resemble the tribes that are scattered through the north-east parts of Asia. The Esquimaux are not unlike the Greenlanders, in their aspect, dress, mode of life, and language; and Labrador and Greenland are separated from each other only by a narrow strait.

With the exception of some provinces of North America, and of a few individuals in the central regions, the native inhabitants of this country are of a light brown, or copper colour. In Africa, the torrid zone is inhabited by negroes, and the blackness of their colour is ascribed to the intensity of the heat in the tropical climates. Whence then does it arise that, within the region of the torrid zone, there are no negroes in America? And how is it that the copper-colour is there so prevalent? To the first of these questions it may be answered, that America is destitute of negroes, because there the heat of the torrid zone is more equally distributed than it is in Africa; and therefore the same effect could not be produced in both regions in the same degree. To the latter it may be replied, that the copper-colour is preserved in the highest latitudes of the New World by the state of society, which, among the American Indians, is uniform; by most of them using certain red pigments, or by some modifying circumstances which we know to exist, but which cannot easily be explained. The whole race of American Indians is distinguished by a peculiar thickness of the skin. Another peculiarity has been remarked of them, that they have no beards. The latter, however, is occasioned by their constant practice of pulling out by the roots all the hairs, as soon as they appear.

The ordinary stature of the native Americans is not very different from that of Europeans. But, owing either

to their inactive life, or to some constitutional tendency with which we are unacquainted, their bodies are peculiarly plump and full.

Of the manners and habits of life of the several tribes of American Indians, we shall hereafter have occasion to speak.

The great variation of climate affects very sensibly the constitution of the inhabitants. People become old in America sooner than in Europe. Upon females the influence of the climate is still more sensible. When young the women are generally beautiful, and particularly at Philadelphia: but after twenty, they begin to lose their fresh colour and teeth, and at twenty-five many of them would pass for Europeans of forty!

The number of children which die in infancy is proportionably greater than in Europe; colds, hooping-coughs, and disorders of the throat, taking off great multitudes.

The character of the inhabitants of the different states may be expected to be as dissimilar as the climates of the countries which they inhabit are various. The climate itself, the original formation of the colonies, their ancient governments, and the diversity of European nations, of which the population of the United States is composed, has in reality impressed this difference between them. The possession and usage of slaves in some states, a traffic now almost wholly abolished, must have introduced a considerable difference in their manners.

The traits of character common to all, are an ardour for enterprize, greediness of gain, and an advantageous opinion of themselves. Habituated to fatigue from their infancy, having for the most part made their fortune by labour, it is not become repugnant even to those in the most easy circumstances. While they wish to enjoy the sweets of life, they do not regard them as absolutely necessary; they know how to quit them, and travel in the woods whenever their interest requires it; they can forget them whenever a reverse of fortune takes them away; and they know how to run after fortune when she escapes them.

The NATURAL PRODUCTIONS of America are wholly dif-

ferent from the productions of the old continents. Most of them differ, both in shape and appearance, from those of every other part of the world. The quadrupeds in general are smaller and weaker: there are none equal in size to the elephant and the giraffe, and few so large as the camel or the horse. Some of the reptiles, however, are of enormous size. The woods have an infinitely more majestic appearance than the forests of Europe: they represent, in their various ages, the succession of centuries; and a new soil, of immense depth, is in some places formed by the remains of ancient vegetation. But what is chiefly remarkable in America, is the existence, beneath the surface of the ground, of the fossil or mineralized remains of immense quadrupeds. Particulars of which will be given hereafter.

As it respects the Government of the United States, its political constitution is perhaps the freest and most incorrupt of any. It is a pure system of representation, which includes the voice and will of the whole population. The Legislature consists of a House of Representatives and a Senate, corresponding to our Commons and Lords, with a President, elected every four years, instead of an hereditary Monarch, for the executive power.

Every private individual in the United States has perfect liberty of conscience. There are, however some states in which the constitution requires every citizen, entering upon the legislative or executive function, to swear, "that he believes in one God, in a future state of rewards and punishments, in the scriptures of the Old and New Testament, and that he professes the protestant religion."

Dr. Moore, anticipating a future era of improvement, says, "Here the sciences and the arts of civilized life, are to receive their highest improvement: here civil and religious liberty are to flourish, unchecked by the cruel hand of civil or ecclesiastical tyranny: here genius, aided by all the improvements of former ages, is to be exerted in humanizing mankind, in expanding and enriching their minds with religious and philosophical knowledge, and in planning and executing a form of government, which shall involve all the excellencies of

former governments, with as few of their defects as is consistent with the imperfections of human affairs, and which shall be calculated to protect and unite, in a manner consistent with the natural rights of mankind, the largest empire that ever existed."

Speaking of the western portion of the United States, the learned Editor of the "Western Quarterly Reporter* of Medical and Natural Science," says, "the time which has elapsed since the first settlement of this country is so short, and the changes effected have succeeded each

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* Two numbers of the "Reporter" have just been received, from its printer and publisher J. P. Foote, Esq. by the editor of this work, accompanied by the following obliging letter; several particulars in which, are *important* to those who may design to emigrate to the Western portion of the United States.

Circinnati, 9th September, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

I lost an opportunity of replying to your esteemed favour by Mr. Hilditch sometime since, which I regretted very much; and the present I had nearly lost, owing to sickness and death in my family, which has confined me to my house for some days past; I have just learned from Mr. H. that he intends to to depart in the course of a few hours, and the business that has accumulated on my hands during my confinement, gives me only an opportunity of employing a few minutes of that time in writing to you. I send you herewith some publications on the Geography of this Country, and two numbers of a periodical work of which I have commenced the publication here, hoping that you may derive some amusement and information from them. The REPORTER may serve to give you some idea of the state of literature and science among us. The others will shew the rapid increase of this Western World.

The classes of men to whom the inducement for emigration to this country are greatest, are poor mechanics and labourers, and men with small incomes which are

other with such rapidity, that credit can scarcely be given to the fact, that forty years ago, the places now enlivened by cities, towns, villages and all the active bustle of society, were shadowed by ancient forests, re-echoing with the howls of ferocious animals—the more

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not sufficient to give them the comforts of life in other parts of the world. The soil of this country is so extremely fertile and our distance from market is so great that the necessaries of life are very plentiful and cheap, and a small annual income will supply a family very comfortably. There are, however, few or no ways open for a rapid accumulation of wealth; and speculations for that purpose have been tried very extensively and have failed in almost every instance. Our society is composed of emigrants from all parts of the United States, and the British dominions; and we have more men among us of liberal education, polished manners, and good talents, than are generally expected to be found in so new a country.

Our climate is unfavourable to children, particularly those from a colder climate, for adults it is probably as healthy as any part of the United States. It is always found that a fertile soil in a new country is sickly for a time. A few years will probably render this part of the country as healthy as any part of the world, as every thing is favourable, except the recent state of cultivation, every aditional year of improvment adds to the salubrity of the country.

I shall be pleased to hear from you as occasions may offer, and if I can afford you any service in this remote quarter of the globe it will give me pleasure to receive your commands.

I remain, dear Sir,
With esteem,
Your obedient Servant,
J. P. FOOTE.

To Mr. C. Hulbert,
SHREWSBURY.

discordant and terrifying yells of savage men, or the sullen roar of mighty rivers rolling their tributary waters to the ocean.

Such is, however, the truth. An immense population, widely extending cultivation, cities and manufactories, a rapidly advancing state of society, and an increasing refinement, are to be found here. A country singularly interesting to the moral, medical and natural philosopher, reaches to vast distances on all sides, and the progress of time will shew, that those who anticipate the future wealth and strength of this region, have not been mistaken in their views."

The UNITED STATES comprehend an extensive portion of North America; bounded on the south, since the acquisition of the Floridas in 1819, by the gulf of Mexico; on the east by New Brunswick and the Atlantic ocean; on the west by the territory inhabited by the Indians; although, with the exception of Louisiana, there are few settlers to the west of the Mississippi; and on the north and north-west by the river St. Lawrence, and a line drawn through the middle of lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron, and along the northern shore of lake Superior, whence it is prolonged westward into the desert territory of the Indians

In the Michigan territory the settlers, however, are not numerous; and in the north-west territory, bounded by lake Superior on the north, and lake Michigan on the west, population has scarcely begun.

But in the United States the progress of population is much quicker than in the old and long settled countries of Europe. The fertile and unoccupied countries which lie westward, afford an ample expanse, on which the overflowing population may freely spread itself. So long as there is plenty of vacant ground, provisions must be abundant and cheap, the wages of labour will be high, and these circumstances are an extraordinary stimulus to the increase of inhabitants.

The following topographical table contains a view of the United States, with the divisions of the country into different states;

STATES AND TERRITORIES.	Length. North & South.	Breadth East & West.	Square Miles.	Population to Square Miles.	Seat of Government.
1. Vermont	157	90	10,212	21	Montpelier
2. New Hampshire	160	90	9,491	23	Concord
3. Massachusetts	190	90	7,500	63	Boston
Maine	225	195	32,628	7	Portland
4. Rhode Island	49	29	1,508	49	Providence Newport
5. Connecticut	72	90	4,764	55	Hartford New Haven
6. New York	304	316	46,085	21	Albany
7. New Jersey	161	52	8,320	20	Trenton
8. Pennsylvania	160	307	44,000	18	Harrisburg
9. Ohio	216	216	39,128	6	Columbus
10. Indiana	284	155	37,000		Croydon
11. Delaware	92	23	2,120	35	Dover
12. Maryland	120	196	13,950	28	Annapolis
13. Virgina	290	370	64,000	15	Richmond
14. Kentucky	180	300	42,000	10	Frankfort
15. North Carolina	180	340	48,000	12	Raleigh
16. South Carolina	125	200	28,000	15	Columbia
17. Tennessee	102	420	40,000	7	Murfreesbor.
18. Georgia	270	250	62,000	4	Milledgeville
19. Mississippi	312	150	45,000	1	Monticello
20. Louisiana	240	210	48,220	2	New Orleans
21. Illinois	345	210	52,000		Kaskaskia
Territories Alabama	317	174	46,000		St. Stephens
Michigan	250	150	30,000		Detroit
North Western	360	450	147,000		
Missouri	1380	1680	1,500,000		St. Louis
			100		Washington
Columbia (District of)	10	10			
			2,407,098		

The population of the United States is at least millions; and, which according to the regular progressio will double itself in 25 years; to which may be add 400,000 Indians.

This extensive territory is diversified by a tolerably equal proportion of hill and valley, and is watered by a great variety of navigable streams. The country is intersected in almost its whole length by the great chain of mountains called the Allegany or Appalachian mountains, which extend 900 miles in length, from near the mouth of the St. Lawrence to the confines of Georgia, and are about 200 miles in breadth.

On the western side of the Allegany chain, the country is spread out into that vast valley which is bounded by the Rocky mountains on the west, and which is from 1200 to 1500, miles in breadth. The great river the Mississippi, which runs generally in a direction from north to south, and falls into the gulf of Mexico, is the common channel through which all the waters of this vast valley flow out into the ocean. The rivers which have their rise on the western declivity of the Allegany range, as well as those which flow from the Rocky mountains, including the great river Missouri, all terminate in this general drain.

For 250 miles above the mouth of the Mississippi, the country is a perfect flat, and it afterwards rises by a gradual ascent. In consequence of this favourable configuration of the ground, vessels may ascend by the course of the Mississippi, the Ohio, and the Allegany rivers, an inclined plane of 2400 miles, to an elevation of 1200 or 1400 feet, without the help either of canals or locks. The advantages of this disposition of the ground for the purpose of commerce and navigation, need hardly be explained. With a greater elevation of the mountains, the streams would have run to the ocean with a rapidity that would have impeded navigation; and a lower elevation would not have been sufficient to have poured the surplus waters into the ocean.

Immense and important as the United States of Northern America may appear, some have supposed that the SOUTHERN CONTINENT is destined to be more than its rival.

The following description of the Nations, recently Spanish Colonies, now Independent States, is from the Literary Chronicle, No. 170.

"The nations who have declared themselves indepen-

dent, are the empire of Mexico, and the republics of Columbia, Buenos Ayres, Peru, and Chili.

Mexico, including the kingdom of New Mexico and the province of Guatimala, extends from the Pacific Ocean on the south and west, to the uncertain limits of Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico on the east. The population of Mexico alone, exclusive of New Mexico and Guatimala, was estimated by Humboldt, in 1803, at 6,500,000. Since the beginning of their contest with Spain, the inhabitants of these provinces have taken a census, which may be considered tolerably accurate. They report the numbers to be, in—

Mexico	5,400,000
Guatimala	1,800,000
New Mexico	800,000
Total	8,000,000

The city of Mexico, the capital, contains, according to Humboldt, 137,000 inhabitants.

The independence of the Mexican empire was declared on the 24th of August, 1821.

The republic of Columbia consists of the provinces of Venezuela and New Grenada; and probably includes also the neighbouring provinces of Cumana, Guiana, and and Maracaybo. If so, it extends from the Spanish Main on the north, to Buenos Ayres and Peru; and from Dutch Guiana, on the east, to the Pacific Ocean; and contains about 3,500,000 inhabitants. Its principal city is Santa Fe de Bogoda, containing a population of 40,000.

It will be recollected that the provinces of New Grenada separately declared their independence; and, since the year 1808, have maintained a bloodier contest with the arms of Spain, than any of the provinces. On the 19th of December, 1819, they united themselves under one government, on the model of that of the United States, and assumed the name of 'the Republic of Columbia.'

Buenos Ayres, beginning at the 38th degree of south latitude, extends nearly 1600 miles to the north, where it is bounded by the unknown regions of Amazonia and Matto-Grosso; and from the Atlantic on the east, about

1000 miles to Chili on the west.—Its population is estimated at 1,100,000.—The city of Buenos Ayres is supposed to contain about 60,000 inhabitants, and Monte Video about 30,000. The viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres declared its independence in 1816; but, though it encountered no opposition from the government of Spain, it has been distracted by civil wars, particularly with the Banda Orientale—the eastern shore of La Plata; and by contests with the neighbouring provinces. It is said now to enjoy entire tranquility.

Peru is perhaps the least known of all the Spanish provinces. It is more than 1000 miles in length, from New Grenada to Chili, and stretches westward from Buenos Ayres to the Pacific Ocean. The Patriots have estimated its population at 1,700,000.

Lima, its principal city, was founded by Pizarro, and now contains about 53,000 inhabitants; of whom 17,000 are Spaniards, 9000 Negroes, 3000 Indians; and the rest a mixed race, the descendants of Spaniards and Indians.

Peru was liberated from the power of the Spaniards last Summer, by an army from Buenos Ayres and Chili, under the command of General San Martin. On the capture of Lima, on the 12th of June, 1821, they proclaimed their independence.

Chili, extending from Peru to the Archipelago of Chiloe, has, in fact, never been entirely conquered from the natives. The Arancanians, inhabiting about 300 miles of the southern part of Chili, having resolutely maintained their independence against all the attacks of the Spaniards since the first invasion of Diego Almagro; and the possession of the northern part of the country, which the Spaniards ultimately acquired, cost them more blood and treasure, than all the rest of the Continent. One of the finest poems in the Spanish language, the Arancana of Alonzo de Ercilla, celebrates the wars of this nation with their Spanish invaders.

Spanish Chili is about 780 miles long and 250 broad. Santiago, the capital, contains about 46,000 inhabitants; Valparaiso about 20,000. The number of inhabitants in the province has never been estimated. The people proclaimed their independence of Spain in 1818; and

have since been unmolested in the possession of their sovereignty.

These five communities are now introduced into the great society of nations. It is impossible to predict the moral and political effects of their independence; but when it is remembered that the blessings of freedom and knowledge are now placed within the reach of fifteen millions of the human race, no sentiments can arise in our hearts, but those of gratitude and joy. It is worthy of remark, that the human character has attained its highest perfection either in times of great agitation and calamity, or immediately after such periods.—An age of revolutions is always an age of great mental energy. In times of civil contention, there is a developement of talent, that, on ordinary occasions, would have remained concealed. And even among those, who, by birth or fortune, are placed at the summit of society, there is, in stirring times, an excitement of feeling—a kindling of imagination—that prepares them for great enterprises. From being obliged to act for themselves, they learn to think for themselves.

If these remarks are correct, we may indulge the brightest hopes of these Southern republics, including also the kingdom of Brazil. They have entered upon a career of almost endless improvement. And, though much disorder and confusion may attend the beginning of their course, they will soon attain the knowledge and freedom and civilization of the happiest states of Europe."

The extensive Portuguese kingdom, or empire of the Brazils, above alluded to, is divided into eight governments, besides that of Rio Janeiro, including a population of 200,000 whites, 600,000 negroes, and 1,000,000 of natives.

The climate in the south is delicious, and the soil fertile; but the north is exposed to rains, thunder and storms. The vallies are rich, the forests extensive, and the rivers and mountains are both numerous and grand.

Brazilian Diamond Mines are greatly celebrated, though inferior to those of the east; but diamonds constitute not the real wealth of this immense territory, they are inconsiderable when compared with the herds

of wild cattle which range the forests, and medicinal plants of rare virtues which every where abound.

British North America comprehends the extensive and valuable Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, extending from the Gulph of St. Lawrence to Lake Winnipeg 1400 miles, and of the average breadth of 200 miles: To which may be added Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, and the Bermudas or Summer Islands, about half way between Nova Scotia and the West Indies.

The West Indian Islands pertaining to Great Britain are not only numerous but valuable and important: comprising Jamaica, Barbadoes, St. Christopher, Antigua, Nevis, Barbuda, Anguila, Dominica, St. Luica, St. Vincent, Grenada, Tobago, Trinidad, and the Virgin Islands; we have also the thriving settlement of Demerara, a part of the Southern Continent, &c.

Canada is in general mountainous and woody, but in the Upper Province there are savannas and plains of great beauty. The climate of the western parts of Upper Canada is not only healthful but agreeable. The cold, in winter, in every part is undoubtedly severe, but in compensation for this the sky is bright and cloudless, particularly conducive to health and longevity. The autumns of Upper Canada resemble very much those of Great Britain, though the spring is far from being as pleasant. The soil of the Upper Province is excellent, as is some portion of the Lower.

The Upper Province may probably contain at this time 230,000 inhabitants, and daily increasing; while the population of the Lower may not exceed 120,000, and is nearly stationary. One principal hindrance to the more rapid settlement of these valuable Colonies is, their proximity to the United States, and consequent exposure to invasion in case of any disagreement between the governments of Great Britain and America. Some future day, it appears almost certain, that the Canadas will either establish their own independence, or fraternise with their republican neighbours.

Our possessions in the West Indies are no less likely eventually to desert the nation which now renders them support.

The passing of the law for the abolition of the Slave Trade, and other restrictive measures of the parent country, have given to the planters and merchants of the West Indies no inconsiderable offence; and in most of their speeches on public occasions they manifest strong feelings of dissatisfaction. This dissatisfaction is not unknown to the slaves, who are many times the numerical strength of the planters; and in the event of any rupture, must necessarily contemplate complete emancipation, if not the entire possession of the property of their masters.

In case of their being *voluntarily* emancipated by the planters, the consequence, probably, would be *union*, and an attempt to establish a government, or governments independent of Great Britain. That such a change would be to the advantage of the islands is not very certain. But, supposing a *revolt* among the slaves, and their final ascendancy, the scenes which would follow are too horrible for contemplation; and we sincerely pray that the moderation and wisdom of government and the planters, will devise such means, and adopt such measures, as shall secure the just rights of all parties, and prevent the horrors of an insurrection.—Gradual, but total emancipation, with due encouragement to free blacks commencing business or planting, would attach them to *that* island, and to *that* community, of which they may form a part; and give them a fellow feeling, and a fellow interest in the peace and prosperity of the *whole* of the islands.

American Antiquities

1 Ancient Vessel P.59
2 Ancient Urn P.59

3 Fort at Circleville P.
4 Temple of Cholula P.

Pub.d by C. Hulbert Shrewsbury

ANTIQUITIES, &c.

PRIMEVAL woods and forests, vast and rude,
Where reigns one deep, unbroken solitude!
Eternal oaks who've wider stretch'd their arms,
And deeper struck their roots, amidst the storms,
Beneath their aged trunks (whose fibres sleep
In earth's dark central caverns founded deep,)
Entombed in earth, and mighty waters lie,
Towers which invaded yonder lofty sky!
There the proud ruins of those days of yore,
Reveal in groans, Columbia's ancient power:
Strong forts repose beneath that fertile soil,
Which time has formed of Nature's mould'ring spoil.
Where the bright temple echoed songs divine,
The roots firm anchor of the stately pine;
Low in the halls where glittering monarchs sat,
Reign in their solemn gloom, the mole and bat!
Where flattering lords their honey'd venom spake,
Devours his prey, the deadly rattle-snake!
Hush! for what horrid stillness dwells on all,
Silent the holy fane,—the mirthful hall.—
Silent, historic. truth and fable there,
Swept from the earth as though they never were!
Oblivion of thy treasures spare one view,
Spirits of olden time, inform the new.—
Say, were ye Scythian tribes, whose wandering feet
Cross'd the cold north, a warmer clime to greet;
Or Canaan's exiled children whom the wave,
Bore from your conquer'd homes, to meet this grave;
Or Madog's vent'rous bands who fill'd the west,
Ere brave Columbus this far clime address'd:
Say were these ponderous walls like Egypt's towers,
Raised by a captive nation's fainting powers?
Had freedom's sinewy children bid them grow,
They had not fallen so soon, or sunk so low!
Sepulchr'd giants! slumbering sons of old,
No more your voices ring your domes of gold,
No more your pompous palaces remain,
But freedom builds her never dying fane;
Fade, thrones of tyrant kings, a nobler race
Erect their tents in your forsaken place!
Slaves! had ye known of freedom's charms one glance,
Oh, ye had burst your chains, and gain'd deliverance!

C. A. H.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ANTIQUITIES IN THE STATE OF OHIO.

UNITED STATES, NORTH AMERICA.

(From Kilbourn's Ohio Gazetteer, published at Columbus, U. S. 1819.)

THE most prominent antiquities are the numerous mounds and forts of earth, in the state of Ohio, as well as the western states generally, which are found interspersed throughout almost the whole extent of country, as far west and south-west of the Allegany mountains as the country is much known. The general direction in which these fortifications, as they are called, lie, is from north east to south west. The place where they commence, or at least, where they are very remarkable, is in the western part of the state of New York, near the southern shores of lake Ontario. From thence they extend in a south-westerly direction through the western states and territories, and terminate in Mexico.

Various have been the conjectures of the learned concerning the time when, by what people, and even for what purpose, these stupendous monuments of human ingenuity were erected. Their origin is so deeply involved in the obscurity of remote antiquity, without any light of history, or even authentic tradition, to conduct our enquiries concerning them to the desired result, that no certainty upon the subject will probably ever be attained. The writer will therefore only give an account of facts, or a mere statement of the present appearances of those antiquities; and even within these limits, he will confine himself chiefly to a description of those which have fallen within the limits of his own personal observation. It will likewise be unnecessary to describe, minutely, every individual mound and fortification; for, almost always, the same general plan and principle of their structure is discoverable in them all. Therefore, a particular description of a few will substantially be a description of the whole.

Some of the most remarkable forts and mounds in this state, are at Worthington, at Granville, in Athens, in Marietta, in Gallipolis, in Chillicothe, on Paint creek

18 miles north west from Chillicothe, on a plain 3 miles north east of Chillicothe, and at Circleville on the east bank of the Scioto river, about 60 miles in direct line from its mouth, and on the little Miami river. There are no fortifications, (or not any of much notoriety,) at any of these places, except at Granville, at Circleville, near Chillicothe, on Paint creek, and the little Miami; but, at these places, there are both mounds and forts.

Mounds of earth, of various sizes, are found interspersed over almost the whole face of the country; but the forts, as they are called, are not so numerous. The mounds vary, in magnitude, vastly from each other, and somewhat so in shape; some are of a conical figure, ending on the top in a point, and as steep on the sides as the earth could be made to lie; others are of the same form, except that they present a flat area on the top, like a cone cut off at some distance from its vertex, in a plane coincident with its base, or with the horizon. Others again are of a semiglobular shape. Of this latter description is that standing in Gallipolis. The largest one near Worthington is of the second kind, and presents, on the summit, a level area of 40 feet in diameter. There is one at Marietta of the same kind, but the circular area on the top does not exceed 20 feet in diameter. Its perpendicular height is about 50 feet; and is 20 rods in circumference at its base. Those in Worthington, and Gallipolis, are each from 15 to 20 rods in circumference, at their bases. There are a number of others of less magnitude, which have fallen within the limits of the writer's observation, particularly on the west side of the Hockhocking river in the township of Athens; on the south side of Shade river about 20 miles south of Athens; and in the French Grant about 60 rods north of the Ohio river, and opposite to the mouth of Little Sandy river, in Kentucky. At each of the two latter places, respectively, there are three several mounds within a few feet of each other. These are much smaller than those before described, and are each from 5 to 10 or 15 feet in perpendicular height, and proportionably large in circumference.

Many of these mounds are composed of earth of a different quality from that which is found in their imme-

diate vicinity. This circumstance seems to indicate that the earth of which they were composed, was transported from some distance. A striking instance of this difference of composition was observed, a few years since, in a mound at Franklinton, near the main fork of the Scioto river. This mound was composed altogether of clay, of which the bricks for the court house, in that town, were made. In it were likewise found a much greater number of human bones, than have been discovered in almost any other of its size.

It is believed, from the best information which can be obtained upon the subject, that the largest of all the mounds which have yet been discovered, is the one adjoining Big Grave creek, near the Ohio river, 14 miles below Wheeling. This mound, according to the account given of it by an intelligent gentleman, who examined it personally, is about 33 rods in circumference, and consequently between 10 and 11 rods in diameter, in its base. Its perpendicular height is about 70 feet. On the summit is an area of nearly 60 feet in diameter, in the middle of which is a regular concavity, the cubical content of which is about 3000 feet. Within a short distance of this large one, are five small ones, some of which are thirty feet in diameter.

The epithet *Grave* has been applied to the creek which runs by the large mound, and to another called *Little Grave creek*, one mile north of the former, on account of the great number of these mounds which have been discovered in their vicinity: which mounds, both here and elsewhere, are pretty generally supposed to have been cemeteries for the dead. One principal reason for this supposition, is the circumstance of human bones having been discovered in most of those which have been examined. Most of those bones presently crumble in pieces or moulder into dust, shortly after being exposed to the air; except in some instances, wherein the teeth, jaw, scull, and sometimes a few other bones, by their peculiar solidity, resist the above described effects of a contact with the air.

Among those places, where are the greatest number, and most prominent and entire of the earthen walls, which are commonly supposed to have been forts and

military fortifications, are Granville and Circleville, in this state, and the land bordering on the Great Kanhawa river in Virginia, towards its mouth, and from thence down the Ohio 10 or 12 miles; at the latter place, in particular, the country is very thickly bestrown with them. And among these is a mound of similar magnitude with the largest at Grave creek.

The fortifications throughout the western country generally, consist of a circular wall composed of earth, and usually, as steep, on the sides, as the dirt could conveniently be made to lie. Sometimes, though rarely, their form is elliptical or oval, and a few of them are square. Their height is almost infinitely various. Some of them are so low as to be scarcely perceptible: some are from 20 to 30 feet in perpendicular height; while others again are of an intermediate elevation. But the wall of the same fort, is pretty uniformly of the same height all around. They are likewise equally various in the contents of ground, which they enclose: some containing but a few perches of land; others again, containing nearly 100 acres. The number of their entrances or gate-ways, varies in different forts from one to eight or more, in proportion to the plan of construction, and magnitude of the enclosure. The walls are, mostly, single; but, in a few instances, the forts have been found consisting of two walls parallel, and adjacent to each other. As to their local situation, it may perhaps, suffice to observe that they are, generally, situated on a comparatively elevated site of ground, adjoining a river or stream of water. Some, even among the most learned men, have controverted the idea of their having been designed for forts; but a strong argument in favour of the idea is, that they seem in a majority of instances to have been constructed in such advantageous and commanding ground as skilful military positions: still, numbers of them seem to be erected, without any regard to the choice of situation, as it respects eligibility either for offence, or defence.

One of the most remarkable collections of these fortifications, is at Circleville, the chief town of Pickaway county. This town derives its name from the circumstance of being laid out within one of the old circular

forts, and with circular streets, corresponding with the external fortification. The town plat, however, includes the area of a square fort, adjoining the circular one on the east, besides two streets circumscribing nearly the whole.

The circular fort consists of two parallel walls, whose tops are, apparently, about three rods asunder; the inner one of which is forty seven rods in diameter. Between these two walls is a fosse, excavated sufficiently broad and deep; and not more than sufficiently so, to have afforded earth enough for the construction of the external wall alone. From this circumstance, among others, the earth composing the inner wall, is supposed to have been transported from a distance. Another particular, corroborating this supposition, is, there being a level foot way, of about four feet wide, left on the original surface of the ground, between the interior base of the inner wall. Although this circumstance is far from being conclusive upon the subject; yet, the following fact almost infallibly proves this conjecture to be well founded. This is, that the interior wall is composed of clay, of which the inhabitants manufacture brick; whereas, the exterior circle is composed of dirt and gravel of similar quality with that which composes the neighbouring ground.

There is but one original regular opening, or passage, into the circular fort; and that is in the east side from the square one. The latter has seven avenues leading into it, exclusively of that which communicates with the circle; there is one at every corner, and one on each side equidistant from the angular openings. These avenues are each 12 or 15 feet wide; and the walls, on either hand, rise immediately to their usual height; which is above 20 feet. The trees, which are growing upon these, and all the other forts and mounds throughout the country, are, apparently, of equal age and size, and those which are down are in equal stages of decay, with those, in like situations, in the surrounding forests. This circumstance, incontestibly proves the great antiquity of those stupendous remains of former labour and ingenuity.

ANCIENT WORKS IN PERRY COUNTY, OHIO.

(From the Archæologia Americana, printed at Worcester, Massachusetts, U. S. 1820.)

SOUTHWARDLY from the great works on the Licking, four or five miles in a northwestern direction from Somerset, the seat of justice for Perry county, and on section twenty-one, township seven, range sixteen, is an ancient work of stone. In the centre is a stone mound. This stone mound is circular, and in the form of a sugar loaf, from twelve to fifteen feet in height. There is a smaller circular stone tumulus, standing in the wall, which encloses the work, and constitutes a part of it.

There is a large and high rock, lying in front of an opening in the outer wall. This opening is a passage between two large rocks, which lie in the wall, of from seven to ten feet in width. These rocks, on the outside, present a perpendicular front of ten feet in altitude, but after extending fifty yards into the enclosure, they enter the earth and disappear.

There is also a small work, whose area is half an acre; the walls are of earth, and of a few feet only in height. This large stone work contains within its walls forty acres and upwards. The walls, as they are called in popular language, consist of rude fragments of rocks, without any marks of any iron tool upon them. These stones lie in the utmost disorder, and if laid up in a regular wall, would make one seven feet or seven feet six inches in height, and from four to six feet in thickness. I do not believe this ever to have been a military work, either of defence or offence; but if a military work, it must have been a temporary camp. From the circumstance of this work's containing two stone tumuli, such as were used in ancient times, as altars and as monuments, for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of some great era, or important event in the history of those who raised them, I should rather suspect this to have been a sacred enclosure, or "high place," which was resorted to on some great anniversary. It is on high ground, and destitute of water, and, of course, could not have been a place of habitation for any length of time. It might have

been the place, where some solemn feast was annually held by the tribe by which it was formed. The place has become a forest, and the soil is too poor to have ever been cultivated by a people who invariably chose to dwell on a fertile spot. These monuments of ancient manners, how simple and yet how sublime. Their authors were rude, and unacquainted with the use of letters, yet they raised monuments, calculated almost for endless duration, and speaking a language as expressive as the most studied inscriptions of latter times upon brass and marble. These monuments, their stated anniversaries and traditionary accounts, were their means of perpetuating the recollection of important transactions. Their authors are gone; their monuments remain; but the events, which they were intended to keep in the memory, are lost in oblivion.

ANCIENT TUMULI.

THE SAME.

(The following information is extracted from the Letter of Dr. Hildreth, to the President of the American Antiquarian Society, dated Marietta, Nov. 3, 1819.)

THERE is another species of ancient works in this country which deserves our notice. They are conical mounds, either of earth or stones, which were intended for many sacred and important purposes. In many parts of the world similar mounds were used as monuments, sepulchres, altars, and temples.

The accounts of these works, found in the scriptures, show that their origin must be sought for among the Antideluvians. That they are very ancient, were used as places of sepulture, public resort and public worship, is proved by all the writers of ancient times, both sacred and profane. Homer frequently mentions them. He particularly describes the tumulus of Tytyus and the spot where it was. In memory of the illustrious dead, a sepulchral mound of earth was raised over their remains; which from that time forward became an altar, whereon to offer sacrifices, and around which, to exhibit games of athletic exercise. These offerings and games

were intended to propitiate their manes, to honour and perpetuate their memories.*

"In addition to the articles found at Marietta," says Dr. Hildreth, "I have procured, from a mound on the Little Muskingum, about four miles from Marietta, some pieces of copper, which appear to be the front of a helmet. It was originally about eight inches long and four broad, and has marks of having been attached to leather; it is much decayed, and is now quite a thin plate. A copper ornament in imitation of those described, and found in Marietta, was discovered with the plate, and appears to have been attached to the centre of it by a rivet, the hole for which remains both in the plate and ornament. At this place the remains of a skeleton were found. No part of it retained its form; but a portion of the forehead and skull, which lay under the plate of copper.

"The mound in which these relics were found, is about the magnitude of the one in Marietta, and has every appearance of being as ancient. I have in my possession some pieces of ancient potters' ware, found within the ancient works at Marietta. They are, some of them, neatly wrought, and composed of pounded flint stone and clay.† They are yet quite solid and firm although they have lain for several years, exposed to rain and frost, on the furface of the ground.

"We often find pieces of broken ware, near the banks of the river, and in the bottoms; but they are composed of clay and pounded clam shells; are much less compact and firm, and do not appear to have been burnt They are evidently of the same composition with those made by the modern Indians.

"Some time in the course of this month, we propose opening several mounds in this place; and if any thing is discovered, which will throw light on the subject of

* Alexander the Great paid great honours when at Ilion, to the manes of Achilles, and caused games te be celebrated round his tomb.—Ed.

† Vessels are found in some instances equal to any now manufactured in any part of the world.

the "*Ancients of the West,*" it shall be communicated to your Society, with a portion or all of the articles found. It seems to be a well established fact, that the bodies of nearly all those buried in mounds, were partially, if not entirely, consumed by fire, before the mounds were built. This is made to appear, by quantities of charcoal being found at the centre and base of the mounds; stones burned and blackened, and marks of fire on the metallic substances buried with them. It is a matter of much regret that on no one of the articles yet found, has been discovered any letters, characters, or hieroglyphicks, which would point to what nation or age these people belonged. I have been told by an eye witness, that a few years ago, near Blacksburgh in Virginia, eighty miles from Marietta, there was found about half of a *steel bow*, which, when entire, would measure five or six feet; the other part was corroded or broken. The father of the man who found it was a blacksmith, and worked up this curious article, I suppose, with as little remorse as he would an old gunbarrel. Mounds are very frequent in that neighbourhood, and many curious articles of Antiquity have been found there.

"I have also been told from good authority, that an ornament, composed of very pure *gold*, something similar to those found here, was discovered a few years since in Ross county, near Chillicothe, lying in the palm of a skeleton's hand, in a small mound. This curiosity, I am told, is in the Museum at Philadelphia."

As we still descend the Scioto, through a most fertile region of country, mounds and other ancient works frequently appear, untill we arrive at Circleville, twenty-six miles south of Columbus, where are to be seen some of the most interesting Antiquities any where to be found.

"The works (at Circleville) have been noticed, but the mounds remain to be described. Of these there were several which the ruthless hand of man is destroying. Near the centre of the round fort, was a tumulus of earth, about ten feet in height, and several rods in diameter at its base. On its eastern side, and extending six rods from it, was a semicircular pavement, composed of pebbles, such as are now found in the bed of the Scioto

river, from whence they appear to have been brought.

The summit of this tumulus was nearly thirty feet in diameter, and there was a raised way to it, leading from the east, like a modern turnpike. The summit was level. The outline of the semicircular pavement and the walk is still discernible.—The earth composing this mound was entirely removed several years since. The writer was present at its removal, and carefully examined the contents. It contained,

1. Two human skeletons, lying on what had been the original surface of the earth.

2. A great quantity of arrow heads, some of which were so large, as to induce a belief that they were used for spear heads.

3. The handle either of a small sword or a large knife, made of an elk's horn; around the end where the blade had been inserted, was a ferule of silver, which, though black, was not much injured by time. Though the handle showed the hole where the blade had been inserted, yet no iron was found, but an oxyde remained of similar shape and size.

4. Charcoal and wood ashes, on which these articles lay, which were surrounded by several bricks very well burnt. The skeleton appeared to have been burned in a large and very hot fire, which had almost consumed the bones of the deceased. This skeleton was deposited a little to the south of the centre of the tumulus; and about twenty feet to the north of it, was another, with which were

5. A large mirror, about three feet in length, one foot and a half in breadth, and one inch and a half in thickness. This mirror was of isinglass, (mica membranacea) and on it,

6. A plate of iron, which had become an oxyde; but before it was disturbed by the spade, resembled a plate of cast iron. The mirror answered the purpose very well for which it was intended. This skeleton had also been buried like the former, and lay on charcoal and a considerable quantity of wood ashes. A part of the mirror is in my possession as well as a piece of a brick, taken from the spot at the time.

The knife, or sword handle, was sent to Mr. Peale's Museum, at Philadelphia.

To the south west of this tumulus, about forty rods from it, is another, more than ninety feet in height. It stands on a large hill, which appears to be artificial. This must have been the common cemetery, as it contains an immense number of human skeletons, of all sizes and ages.

The skeletons are laid horizontally, with their heads generally towards the centre, and the feet towards the outside of the tumulus. A considerable part of this work still stands uninjured, except by time. In it have been found, besides these skeletons, stone axes and knives, and several ornaments, with holes through them, by means of which, with a cord passing through these perforations, they could be worn by their owners.

On the south side of this tumulus, and not far from it, was a semicircular fosse, which, when I first saw it, was six feet deep. On opening it, was discovered at the bottom a great quantity of human bones, which, I am inclined to believe, were the remains of those who had been slain in some great and destructive battle. First, because they belonged to persons who had attained their full size; whereas, in the mound adjoining, were found the skeletons of persons of all ages; and secondly, they were here in the utmost confusion, as if buried in a hurry. May we not conjecture, that they belonged to the people who resided in the town, and who were victorious in the engagements? otherwise they would not have been thus honourably buried in the common cemetery.

ANCIENT TUMULI CONTINUED.

(From Mc. Murtrie's Sketches of Louisville.)

DR. MC. MURTRIE modestly remarks "the antiquities of the western country in general, have been already so minutely described by others, that I shall, no doubt be readily excused for the brevity of the present article, and the more so, as there is nothing of the kind peculiarly interesting in the immediate vicinity of Louisville.

Mounds or tumuli are occasionally met with, some of which have been opened; nothing, however, was found to repay the trouble of the search, but a few human

bones, mixed with others apparently belonging to the deer.

With respect to the uses of these accumulations, there can be no doubt; their contents speak plainly on the subject, and from the circumstance of some of them having been found to contain but one skeleton, while from others, of not more than equal magnitude, the remains of twenty have been disinterred, we may reasonably conclude, that the former were designed for the mausolea of chiefs, or distinguished persons, the latter for those of the community.

Hatchets of stone, pestles or grain beaters, of the same material, arrow heads, of flint, together with the remains of hearths, indicated by flat stones surrounded by, and partly covered with broken shells, fragments of bones, charcoal, calcined earth, &c. are every where to be seen, and some of them in situations affording an ample fund for speculation to the geognost. Two of the first mentioned instruments were discovered, a few miles below the town, at the depth of forty feet, near an Indian hearth, on which, among other vestiges of a fire, were found two charred brands, evidently the extremities of a stick that had been consumed in the middle, on this identical spot: the whole of this plain, as we before observed, is alluvial, and this fact shows to what depth that formation extends. But at the time the owners of these hatchets were seated by the fire, where, I would ask, was the Ohio? Certainly not in its present bed, for these remains are below its level; and where else it may have been, I am at a loss even to conjecture, as there are no marks of any obsolete water course whatever, between the river and Silver Creek hills, on the one side, and between it and the Knobs, on the other.

Not many years past, an *iron hatchet* was found in a situation equally singular. A tree of immense size, whose roots extended thirty or forty feet each way, was obliged to be felled, and the earth on which it grew to be removed, in order to afford room for a wall connected with the foundations of the great mill, at Shippingport. A few feet below the surface, and directly under the centre of the tree, which was at least six feet in diameter,

was found the article in question, which, as was evident upon examination, had been formed out of a flat bar of wrought iron, heated in the fire to redness, and bent double, leaving a round hole at the joint for the reception of a handle, the two ends being nicely welded together, terminated by a cutting edge.

Many others of a similar description have been found at different times and places, but as they were always attributed to the settlers of Kentucky, subsequent to 1769, no care was taken to note such local circumstances as might have determined a greater quantity; and the one above mentioned would have, no doubt, shared the same fate, but for this obvious fact, that the tree must necessarily have grown over the axe previously deposited there, and that no human power could have placed it in the particular position in which it was found, after that event had taken place. The tree was upwards of two hundred years old.

A little below Clarksville, immediately on the bank of the river, is the site of a wigwam, covered with an alluvial deposition of earth, six feet in depth. Interspersed among the hearths, and scattered in the soil beyond them, are large quantities of human bones, in a very advanced stage of decomposition. Facts most generally speak for themselves, and this one, tells a very simple and probable tale. The village must have been surprised by an enemy, many of whose bodies, mixed with those of the inhabitants, were left upon the spot. Had it been a common burial place, something like regularity would have been evinced in the disposition of the skeletons; neither should we have found them in the same place, with the fire places of an extensive settlement, (or near it) but below it.

That walls, constructed of bricks and hewn stones, have been discovered in the western country, is a fact as clear as that the sun shines when he is in his meridian splendour, the dogmatical assertions of writers to the contrary, notwithstanding. Among the great variety of the latter, I shall name but one, which I have selected, because, the gentleman who is my authority for the story, is now in this town, was himself on the spot, and is one on whose simple word the most implicit reliance may be

placed: Mr. R. W. Todd assured me, that he was present, during the year 1809, where some workmen were employed in sinking a well on Todd's Fork, a branch of the Little Miami. At the depth of eighteen or twenty feet, they came to the stump of a tree and a grape vine, and, lower down, to a wall, regularly constructed of hewn stone. Having dug a few feet along the side of this, their spades, &c. were arrested by a pavement composed of the same materials. They had but little time to comment on this discovery, for the water rushed in and obliged them to ascend so speedily, that they could hardly loosen one of the stones from the wall which, however, they accomplished, and brought it up with them. Mr. Todd examined the stone attentively, and declares it to have been a piece of a silicious limestone rock, of a regular oblong figure, *evidently fashioned by some iron instrument.*

With respect to the existence of the former, Mr. Savage, of this place, has lately made a discovery, that puts the fact beyond a possibility of doubt, and one that tends to throw much light upon the race of people now supposed extinct, that once inhabited the vallies of the Mississippi and Ohio.

This gentleman fatigued by the continual ennui of his situation, the natural consequence of his confinement to the Buffaloe steam boat, which, from accidents happening to her machinery, running aground, &c. was detained a long time in the Mississippi, determined upon an excursion to the shores of the river, where accident directed his steps to the ruins of a fortified town of considerable extent, near the river St. Francis; among which were still standing, part of the walls of a *citadel, built of bricks cemented by mortar.*

Over these walls were spread, the extended branches of a number of gigantic trees, which grew upon them. To ascertain the age of the largest of these, was a point of primary importance, to fell them, no easy task; perseverance, however, soon accomplished, what curiosity had commenced, and several of them were levelled with the earth, when it was found, from the number of annual rings visible on the surface of the stumps, that they must have stood there, at least, three hundred years!

which furnishes a hint, respecting the probable time the town became a ruin. The bricks (several of which are now in this place) are composed of clay mixed with chopped and twisted straw, of regular figures hardened by the action of fire, or the sun. It is a subject of deep regret to me, that I am only able to furnish this very lame and imperfect account of one of the most interesting discoveries, respecting the arts of the ancient inhabitants of America, that has ever been made; but the public will probably be the gainer, as Mr. Savage himself contemplates, ere long, laying before it every circumstance connected with this curious fact. I cannot, however, take leave of the subject without observing, that had common attention, and but a small portion of curiosity existed in the minds of the earlier settlers of Kentucky, and in those of the western country generally, we should, no doubt, at the present moment, possess a sufficient mass of evidence to enable us to decide, most positively, on the *nation* or origin of that race of men, who have left behind them marks of civilization and refinement, that serve to distinguish them from the more savage inhabitants of the forest.

MOUNDS BEYOND THE LIMITS OF THE STATE OF OHIO.

(Archæologia Americana.)

THESE tumuli are very common on the river Ohio, from its utmost sources to its mouth. Few and small, comparatively, they are found on the waters of the Monongahela; but increase in number and size, as we descend towards the mouth of that stream, at Pittsburgh. Then rapidly increasing in number, they are of the largest dimensions at Grave Creek, below Wheeling.

"For an able and interesting account of those last mentioned," says Dr. Hildreth, "I am indebted to the Rev. Dr. Doddridge, of Brooke county, Virginia. An extract from his communication follows, dated,

"WELLSBURGH, VA. MAY 27, 1819.

"DEAR SIR,

"As to your inquiry concerning the ancient works at

Grave Creek, below Wheeling, I will give you the best account which I can.

The 'Big Grave,' as it is called, is certainly one of the most august monuments of remote Antiquity any where to be found. Its circumference at the base, is three hundred yards; its diameter, of course, one hundred. Its altitude, from measurement, is ninety feet; and its diameter, at the summit, is forty-five feet. The centre, at the summit, appears to have sunk several feet, so as to form a small kind of amphitheatre. The rim enclosing this amphitheatre, is seven or eight feet in thickness. On the south side, in its edge, stands a large beach tree, whose bark is marked with the initials of a great number of visitants.

This lofty and venerable tumulus has been so far opened, as to ascertain that it contains many thousands of human skeletons, but no farther. The proprietor of the ground, Mr. Joseph Tomlinson, will not suffer its demolition in the smallest degree. I, for one, do him honour for his sacred regard for these works of Antiquity. I wish that the inhabitants of Chillicothe and Circleville had acted like Mr. Tomlinson. In that case, the mounds in those towns would have been left standing. They would have been religiously protected, as sacred relics of remote and unknown Antiquity.

Following the river Ohio downwards, the mounds appear on both sides, erected uniformly on the highest alluvions along the stream. Their numbers increase all the way to the Missisippi, on which river they assume the largest size. Not having surveyed them, we shall use the description of Mr. Brackenridge, who has devoted great attention to them. With his discriminating powers of mind the public are acquainted.

These tumuli, as well as the fortifications, are to be found at the junction of all the rivers, along the Missisippi, in the most eligible positions for towns, and in the most extensive bodies of fertile land. Their number exceeds, perhaps, three thousand; the smallest not less than twenty feet in height, and one hundred in diameter at the base. Their great number, and the astonishing size of some of them, may be regarded as furnishing, with other circumstances, evidence of their antiquity.

I have been sometimes induced to think, that, at the period when these were constructed, there was a population as numerous as that which once animated the borders of the Nile, or of the Euphrates, or of Mexico. The most numerous, as well as the most considerable of these remains, are found precisely in those parts of the country where the traces of a numerous population might be looked for, viz. from the mouth of the Ohio, on the east side of the river, to the Illinois river, and on the west side from the St. Francis to the Missouri, I am perfectly satisfied that CITIES, SIMILAR TO THOSE OF ANCIENT MEXICO, OF SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND SOULS, HAVE EXISTED IN THIS COUNTRY."

Nearly opposite St. Louis, there are traces of two such cities, in the distance of five miles. They are situated on the Cahokia, which crosses the American bottom opposite St. Louis. One of the mounds is eight hundred yards in circumference at the base, (the exact size of the pyramid of Asychis) and one hundred feet in height. Mr. Brackenridge, noticed "a mound at New Madrid of three hundred and fifty feet in diameter at the base." Other large ones are at the following places, viz. at St. Louis, one with two stages, another with three; at the mouth of the Missouri; at the mouth of Cahokia river, in two groups; twenty miles below, two groups also, but the mounds of a similar size; on the bank of a lake, formerly the bed of the river, at the mouth of Marameck, St. Genevieve; one near Washington, Missisippi state, of one hundred and forty-six feet in height; at Baton Rouge, and on the bayon Manchac; one of the mounds near the lake is composed chiefly of shells. The inhabitants have taken away great quantities of them for lime.

The mound on Black River, has two stages and a group around. At each of the above places there are groups of mounds, and there was probably once a city. Mr. Brackenridge thinks that the largest city belonging to this people, was situated between the Ohio, Missisippi, Missouri, and Illinois. On the plains between the Arkansaw and St. Francis, there are several very large mounds.

Thus it will be seen, that these remains which were

so few and small along the northern lakes, are more and more numerous as we travel in a south-western direction, until we reach the Missisippi, where they are lofty and magnificent. Those works similar to the Teocalli of Mexico, by the Spaniards called "*Adoratorios*," are not found north of the mound at Circleville on the Scioto, or at least, I have seen none of them. They are very common and lofty, it seems, on the Missisippi river. An observing eye can easily mark, in these works, the progress of their authors, from the lakes to the valley of the Missisippi; thence to the Gulph of Mexico, and round it, through Texas, into New Mexico, and into South America; their increased numbers, as they proceeded, are evident; while the articles found in and near these works, show also the progressive improvement of the arts among those who erected them.

Miscellaneous Remarks on the Uses of Mounds.

Though they were used as places of sepulture and of worship, yet, were they not sometimes in the last resort, used also as places of defence? Solis, who describes the destruction of the Mexicans, and the conquest of their empire by the Spaniards, informs us that the "Teocalli," which were like many of our works, in cases of extreme necessity, appeared like "living hills;" they were covered with warriors. Standing upon their altars and in their temples; upon the tombs of their fathers; defending themselves, their wives, their children, their aged parents, their country, and their gods, they fought with desperation. These mounds being elevated on high grounds, in situations easily defended, Is it not highly probable, that their authors, in cases of the last resort, used them as places of defence?"

ANCIENT MEXICAN CITIES AND PYRAMIDS.

(Humboldt's Views of the Cordilleras.)

"AMONG those swarms of nations, which, from the seventh to the twelfth century of the Christian era, successively inhabited the country of Mexico, five are enumerated, the Toltecks, the Cicimecks, the Acolhuans, the Tlascaltecks, and the Axtecks, who, notwithstanding their political divisions, spoke the same language, followed the same worship, and built pyramidal edifices, which they regarded as *teocalis*, that is to say, the house of their gods.—These edifices were all of the same form, though of very different dimensions; they were pyramids, with several terraces, and the sides of which stood exactly in the direction of the meridian, and the parallel of the place. Each house of a Mexican divinity, like the ancient temple of Baal Berith, burnt by Abimelech, was a strong place. A great staircase led to the top of the truncated pyramid, and on the summit of the platform were one or two chapels, built like towers, which contained the colossal idols of the divinity, to whom the Teocalli was dedicated. The inside of the edifice was the burial place of the kings and principal personages of Mexico. It is impossible to read the descriptions, which Herodotus and Diodorus Siculus have left us of the temple of Jupiter Belus, without being struck with the resemblance of that Babylonian monument to the Teocallis of Anahuac.

At the period when the Mexicans, or Aztecks, one of the seven tribes of the Anahuatlacks, (inhabitants of the banks of rivers,) took possession, in the year 1190, of the equinoctial region of New Spain, they already found the pyramidal monuments of Teotihuacan, of Cholula, or Cholollan, and of Papantla. They attributed these great edifices to the Toltecks, a powerful and civilized nation, who inhabited Mexico five hundred years earlier, who made use of hieroglyphical characters, who computed the year more precisely, and had a more exact chronology than the greater part of the people of the old continent. We ought not to be astonished, that no history of any American nation should precede the seventh

century; and that the annals of the Toltecks should be as uncertain as those of the Pelasgi and the Ausonians. The learned Mr. Schloezer has clearly proved, that the history of the north of Europe reaches no higher than the tenth century, an epocha when Mexico was in a more advanced state of civilization than Denmark, Sweden and Russia.

The Teocalli of Mexico was dedicated to Tezcatlipolica, the first of the Azteck divinities after Teotl, who is the supreme and visible Being; and to Huitsilopochtli, the God of war. It was built by the Aztecks, on the model of the pyramids of Teotihuacan, six years only before the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. This truncated pyramid, called by Cortez the principal temple, was ninety-seven metres* in breadth at its basis, and nearly fifty-four metres in height.

The group of the pyramids of Teotihuacan is in the valley of Mexico, eight leagues north east from the capital, in a plain that bears the name of Micoatl, or the *Path of the Death*. There are two large pyramids dedicated to the Sun (Tonatiuh,) and to the Moon (Meztli); and these are surrounded by several hundreds of small pyramids, which form streets in exact lines from north to south, and from east to west. Of these two great Teocallis, one is fifty-five, the other is forty-four metres in perpendicular height. The basis of the first is two hundred and eighty metres in length; whence it results, that the Tonatiuh Yztaqual, according to Mr. Oteyza's measurement, made in 1803, is higher than the Mycerinus, or third of the three great pyramids of Geeza in Egypt, and the length of its base nearly equal to that of the Cephren. The small pyramids, which surround the great houses of the Sun and the Moon, are scarcely nine or ten metres high; and served, according to the tradition of the natives, as burial places for the chiefs of the tribes. Around the Cheops and the Mycerinus in Egypt, there are eight small pyramids, placed with symmetry, and parallel to the fronts of the greater. The two Te-

* A French revolutionary measure of 3 feet, 11¼ inches.—Ed.

ecallis of Teotihuacan had four principal stories, each of which was subdivided into steps, the edges of which are still to be distinguished. The nucleus is composed of clay mixed with small stones, and it is encased by a thick wall of tezontli, or porous amygdaloid.* This construction recalls to mind that of one of the Egyptian pyramids of Sakharah, which has six stories; and which, according to Pocock, is a mass of pebbles and yellow mortar, covered on the outside with rough stones. On the top of the great Mexican Teocallis were two colossal statues of the Sun and Moon: they were of stone, and covered with plates of gold, of which they were stripped by the soldiers of Cortez.—When bishop Zumaraga, a Franciscan monk, undertook the destruction of whatever related to the worship, the history, and the Antiquities of the natives of America, he ordered also the demolition of the idols of the plain of Micoatl. We still discover the remains of a staircase built with large hewn stone, which formerly led to the platform of the Teocalli.

On the east of the group of the pyramids of Teotihuacan, on descending the Cordillera towards the Gulph of Mexico, in a thick forest, called Tajin, rises the pyramid of Papantla. This monument was by chance discovered scarcely thirty years ago, by some Spanish hunters; for the Indians carefully conceal from the whites whatever was an object of ancient veneration. The form of this Teocalli, which had six, perhaps seven stories, is more tapering than that of any other monument of this kind; it is nearly eighteen metres in height, while the breadth of its basis is only twenty-five. This small edifice is built entirely with hewn stones, of an extraordinary size, and very beautifully and regularly shaped. Three staircases lead to the top. The covering of its steps is decorated with hieroglyphical sculpture, and small niches, which are arranged with great symmetry. The number of these niches seems to allude to the three hundred and eighteen simple and compound signs of the days of the Cempohualilhuitl, or civil calendar of the Toltecks.

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* Mandelstein of the German mineralogists.

The greatest, most ancient, and most celebrated of the whole of the pyramidal monuments of Anahuac is the Teocalli of Cholula. It is called in the present day the Mountain made by the hand of man *(monte hecho a manos.)* At a distance it has the aspect of a natural hill covered with vegetation.

A vast plain, the Puebla, is separated from the valley of Mexico by the chain of volcanic mountains, which extend from Popocatepetl, toward Rio Frio, and the peak of Telapon. This plain, fertile though destitute of trees, is rich in memorials, interesting to Mexican history. In it flourished the capitals of three republics of Tlascalla, Huexocingo and Cholula, which, notwithstanding their continual dissensions, resisted with no less firmness the despotism and usurping spirit of the Azteck kings.

The small city of Cholula, which Cortez, in his Letters to Charles V. compares with the most populous cities of Spain, contains at present scarcely sixteen thousand inhabitants. The pyramid is to the east of the city, on the road which leads from Cholula to Puebla.

The Teocalli of Cholula has four stories, all of equal height. It appears to have been constructed exactly in the direction of the four cardinal points; but as the edges of the stories are not very distinct, it is difficult to ascertain their primitive direction. This pyramidical monument has a broader basis than that of any other edifice of the same kind in the old continent. I measured it carefully, and ascertained, that its perpendicular height is only fifty metres, but that each side of its basis is four hundred and thirty-nine metres in length. Torquemada computes its height at seventy-seven metres; Betancourt, at sixty-five; and Clavigero, at sixty-one. Bernal Diaz del Castillo, a common soldier in the army of Cortez, amused himself by counting the steps of the staircase, which led to the platform of the Teocallis; he found one hundred and fourteen in the great temple of Tenochtitlan, one hundred and seventeen in that of Tezcuco, and one hundred and twenty in that of Cholula. The basis of the pyramid of Cholula is twice as broad as that of Cheops; but its height is very little more than that of the pyramid of Mycerinus. An adit dug

through the Teocalli of Cholula, to examine its external structure, would be an interesting operation; and it is singular, that the desire of discovering hidden treasure has not prompted the undertaking.—During my travels in Peru, in visiting the vast ruins of the city of Chimu, near Mansiche, I went into the interior of the famous Huaca de Toledo, the tomb of a Peruvian prince, in which Garci Gutierez de Toledo discovered, on digging a gallery, in 1576, massive gold amounting in value to more than five millions of francs, as is proved by the book of accounts, preserved in the mayor's office at Truxillo.

The size of the platform of the pyramid of Cholula, on which I made a great number of astronomical observations, is four thousand two hundred square metres. From it the eye ranges over a magnificent prospect; Popocatepetl, Iztaceihuatl, the peak of Orizaba, and the Sierra de Tlascalla, famous for the tempests which gather around its summit. We view at the same time three mountains higher than Mount Blanc, two of which are still burning volcanoes. A small chapel, surrounded with cypress, and dedicated to the Virgin de los Remedios, has succeeded to the temple of the god of the air, or the Mexican Indra. An ecclesiastic of the Indian race celebrates mass every day on the top of this antique monument.

In the time of Cortez, Cholula was considered as a holy city. No where existed a greater number of Teocallis, of priests, and religious orders *(Hamacazque;)* no spot displayed greater magnificence in the celebration of public worship, or more austerity in its penances and fasts. Since the introduction of Christianity among the Indians, the symbols of a new worship have not entirely effaced the remembrance of the old. The people assemble in crowds, from distant quarters, at the summit of the pyramid, to celebrate the festival of the Virgins. A mysterious dread, a religious awe, fills the soul of the Indian at the sight of this immense pile of bricks, covered with shrubs and perpetual verdure."

RUINS OF AN ANCIENT CITY NEAR PALENQUE, IN GUATEMALA.

(Captain Rio's Discoveries.)

"FROM Palenque, the last town northward in the province of Cindad Real de Chiapa, taking a south-westerly direction, and ascending a ridge of high land that divides the kingdom of Guatemala from Yucatan, or Campeachy, at the distance of two leagues, is the little river Micol, whose waters, flowing in a westerly direction, unite with the great river Tulija, which bends its course towards the province of Tabasco; having passed the Milcot, the ascent begins, and, at half a league from thence, the traveller crosses a little stream called Otolum, discharging its waters into the before-mentioned current; from this point heaps of ruins are discovered, which render the road very difficult for another half league, when you gain the height whereon the stone houses are situated, being fourteen in number, some more dilapidated than others, but still having many of their apartments perfectly discernable.

A rectangular area, three hundred yards in breadth by four hundred and fifty in length, presents a plain at the base of the highest mountain forming the ridge, and in the centre is situated the largest of these structures which has been as yet discovered: it stands on a mound twenty yards high, and is surrounded by the other edifices; namely, five to the northward, four to the southward, one to the south-west, and three to the eastward. In all directions the fragments of other fallen buildings are to be seen extending along the mountain, that stretches east and west, about three or four leagues either way, so that the whole range of this ruined town may be computed to extend between seven and eight leagues; but its breadth is by no means equal to its length, being little more than half a league wide at the point where the ruins terminate, which is towards the river Micol, that winds round the base of the mountain, whence descend small streams, that wash the foundation of the ruins on their banks, so that, were it not for the thick

umbrageous foliage of the trees, they would present to the view so many beautiful serpentine rivulets.

It might be inferred that this people had had some analogy to, and intercourse with the Romans, from a similarity in the choice of situation as well as a subterranean stone aqueduct of great solidity and durability, which passes under the largest building.

I do not take upon myself to assert that these conquerors did actually land in this country; but there is reasonable ground for hazarding a conjecture that some inhabitants of that polished nation did visit these regions; and that, from such intercourse, the natives might have imbibed, during their stay, an idea of the arts, as a reward for their hospitality.

The entrance to the large building is on the eastern side, by a portico or corridor thirty-six varas, or yards, in length, and three in breadth, supported by plain rectangular pillars, without either basis or pedestals, upon which there are square smooth stones of more than a foot in thickness, forming an architrave, while, on the exterior superficies are species of stucco shields, the designs of some of them, while over these stones, there is another plain rectangular block, five feet long and six broad, extending over two of the pillars. Medallions or compartments in stucco, containing different devices of the same material, appear as decorations to the chambers: and it is presumable, from the vestiges of the heads which can still be traced, that they were the busts of a series of kings and lords to whom the natives were subject. Between the medallions there is a range of windows like niches, passing from one end of the wall to the other, some of them are square, some in the form of a Greek cross, and others, which complete the cross, are square, being about two feet high and eight inches deep. Beyond this corridor there is a square court, entered by a flight of seven steps; the north side is entirely in ruins, but sufficient traces remain to show that it once had a chamber and corridor similar to those on the eastern side, and which continued entirely along the several angles. The south side has four small chambers with no other ornament than one or two little windows, like those already described. The western side is correspondent

to its opposite in all respects, but in the variety of expression of the figures in stucco: these are much more rude and ridiculous than the others, and can only be attributed to the most uncultivated Indian capacity. The device is a sort of grotesque mask, with a crown and long beard like that of a goat; under this are two Greek crosses, the one delineated in the other.

Proceeding in the same direction, there is another court, similar in length to the last, but not so broad, having a passage round it that communicated with the opposite side; in this passage there are two chambers like those above-mentioned, and an interior gallery looking on one side upon the court-yard, and commanding, on the other, a view of the open country. In this part of the edifice some pillars yet remain."

CONJECTURES RESPECTING THE ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT WORKS IN AMERICA.

(Mc. Murtrie's Sketches of Louisville.)

"BUT few settlements, in any portion of the known world, have ever been effected under so many discouraging circumstances, as that of Louisville and its adjacent country. The great bone of contention, between the northern and southern tribes of Indians, who disputed the possession of it with each other for a hunting ground, it was not likely they could see a foreign people step in between them, and take possession of it, without a violent struggle, on their part to prevent it.

Man, in his natural and savage state, is by far the most remorseless and cruel animal of the creation, surpassing the tiger in ferocity, and incapable of forgiving an injury, however unintentionally it may have been offered to him. No matter what length of time may have elapsed, from the moment in which it is committed: no matter what motives may have palliated, excused, or justified the deed—nothing, no, not the silence of the tomb, can protect the object of his hatred; he must have blood! and, in default of the offender, by a refinement in cruelty, making revenge to reach beyond the grave,

he wreaks it on his defenceless widow or helpless chi
ren!

Such were the people, among whom the daring s
tlers of Kentucky first pitched their tents, in 1769.
sooner did they appear among the tawny sons of
forests, than the war-whoop was heard, the hell-hou
of death were let loose, and murder stalked triumpha
ly abroad. Every sun that rose witnessed some w
of destruction; and every wind that blew, wafted on
wings the heart-appalling yells of an infernal pack, fr
from their butcher chase; and that dust, which had
fore oft imbibed the blood of the savage, now beca
saturated with that of his civilized brother.

The fury of an ever-active and wary foe, was not
only danger that threatened extermination to those
brave spirits who ventured to this land of blood;* I
ease reared her pale and spectre form among them:
that many escaped unhurt, the hatchet and the kni
only to receive their doom from her fell influence.

Hunted and watched by the natives, like the bea
of the forest; depending upon their rifles for their s
port, the pursuit of which forced them into the toi
their bodies enervated by sickness, and their mi
enfeebled by the continual apprehension of dang
deprived of all medicine or medical aid—it is not to
wondered at, that so few were added to their numb
that a settlement, so situated, progressed but slowly.

From an attentive consideration of the various
-liques of the western country, I am led to believe hc
ever, that several hundred years previous to this epo
the shores of the Ohio and Mississippi, were inhabi
by a race of men instructed by, and descended from E
ropeans, (probably the French,) who were the auth
of all those more perfect specimens of human art all
ed to. Whether we consider the iron hatchets, s
other manufactured pieces of that metal, which, at
ferent times and places, have been found buried in
earth, in situations indicative of their great antiqui
or whether we reflect upon the existence and compe

* The name by which Kentucky at first was designat

tion of the bricks taken from the crumbling wall of the lately discovered ruins on the Mississippi, we are equally certain that neither the Mexicans, nor any other nation of either North or South America, could have been the manufacturers.

The use of iron was unknown among them, until after the year 1519, which, according to the principle assumed, by which we have calculated the lapse of time, since those intruments were buried, and these walls constructed, is about the period in which the latter were abandoned.

To some other quarter, then, we must look for an explanation of these bricks, iron hatchets, hewn stones, and regularly constructed fortifications, the three latter of which are so commonly dispersed throughout the western country. To attribute them to the Egyptians, Phœnicians, or any other elder nations of Asia, would be as ridiculous, as to suppose them the work of the native, uncivilized American Indian, and it is evident, from the great age of the timber often found growing *on* the embankments, that they must have been constructed at or prior to the discovery of St. Salvador, by Columbus, in 1492.

Greenland was said to have been visited by the Icelanders and the Norwegians, 982, and a colony planted by the former in Vinland, a part of Labrador, or Newfoundland, in 1003. From this epoch until the discovery of St. Salvador, 1492, intervenes a period of four hundred and ninety years, during which time, history makes no mention of any attempt at further discoveries; all remarks, therefore, relative to what may have passed during this interim, are purely conjectural; but upon the discovery of such a country as Greenland was represented to be, by Eric-raude, and particularly when, in a few years, we see the same people, who, by his persuasion, were induced to follow him thither, extending that discovery to Vinland, we are a little surprised that the flame which hitherto had animated them, should be smothered in their bosoms, at the very moment they began to reap the reward of their enterprise in the possession of a country far superior to their own.

But even admitting that the Danes, Icelanders, or

Norwegians, never ventured in the track, which finally guided Columbus to the American coast, are we sure that accident or design, the spirit of enterprise or stress of weather, may not have led individuals* of other nations to the same spot?

Europe long rang with the noise of the discovery of Newfoundland; and although the first expedition by the French, fitted out with a view to similar purposes, by

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* According to Caradoc and other authorities, on the death of Owen Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, about the year 1169, several children contending for his dominions, Madog, one of his sons, perceiving his native country likely to be engaged in civil wars, fitted up a few ships, and passing Ireland, sailed to the westward, where he met with a rich fertile country; when he again returned to North Wales, and described the beauty of the new country, and prevailed on numbers to accompany him, and sailed back with 10 ships. The descendants of these Welsh emigrants are supposed to be the inhabitants of western and southern America, whose sepulchres, remains of cities, and proofs of civilization remain to this day.

The existence of a nation of Welshmen, in the interior of America, has long been maintained by various writers, and many respectable individuals have declared that they have seen and conversed with Indians who could speak the Welsh language. The editor of this work has frequently heard a Mr. Lawson of Shrewsbury, declare that when he was in Canada, he had many conversations with an Indian whose native language was Welsh, and that he conversed with him in that language with the greatest facility. The same Indian described the distance between Canada and the settlement of his tribe to be nine *moons* journey.

Dr. Williams who made this interesting enquiry his study for 30 years, declares his belief of the story of Madog, and also of the existence of Welsh Indians in America; he published two pamphlets on the subject about the year 1791. Various other writers have expressed the same belief, and upon the whole it ap-

the imperial order, was in 1524,† yet such is the enthusiasm with which that people engaged in the pursuit of every thing that is novel or uncommon, I think not unreasonable to *suppose*, that, stimulated by the hope of gain, and the desire of distinction, or, perhaps, disgusted with their country or its government, and desirous of seeking new ones, some few individuals, without parade or noise, leaving the soil of France, long prior to the expedition of 1524, and trusting to their fortune, may have been conducted safely to the forests of America; where, finding a country, lovely beyond description, abounding with every gift that nature can bestow, and delighted with the uncontrolled exercise of man's natural heritage, of unlimited freedom, they determined to remain forever, incorporating themselves with some friendly tribe of Indians, and communicating to them the knowledge of such arts as would tend to their comfort and security.

Whatever proof may be wanting, to establish the time or mode in which these adventurers became the inhabitants of the forest, of their nation, or that of the people who were the constructors of the town lately discovered on the Mississippi, there exists much positive and specific evidence in the bricks of which the walls are composed. As early as the latter end of the ninth, and the beginning of the tenth century, the inhabitants of Anjou were in the habit of building their houses with clay, well tempered and thoroughly mixed with chopped or twisted straw, in which state it was termed *pisay*, and when divided into pieces of regular and determinate figures, and dried in the sun or by fire, assumed the

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pears quite as reasonable to believe, that there is now or may have been a nation or tribe of Indians originally descended from natives of Ancient Britain, as to maintain the contrary opinion.

The story of Prince Madog's emigration has been rendered popular and interesting by Mr. Southey.

† Giovanni Verazzoni visited America in 1524, by order of Francis I.

name of bricks. This practice, I believe, subsequently extended to Picardy and several other provinces of France where the custom, I have no doubt, in a great measure still exists. The similarity between this substance and that of which the ancient bricks (if they may be so called) are composed, is striking—they are, in fact, one and the same. When, in addition to this circumstance, we take into consideration, the facility with which the French are known to mingle with the Indians of this country, adopting their dress, manners, mode of living, &c. together with the existence of walls now buried in the earth, whose stones have evidently been cut by some metallic instrument, above all, when we find one of those instruments lying immediately under the *centre* of an immense tree, whose roots covered a circle of forty feet in diameter, we cannot hesitate to acknowledge, that some persons acquainted with the art of working metals, and the uses to which they may be applied, possessing a tolerable notion of the comforts of life, and the best possible mode of screening themselves from the "peltings of the pitiless storm," as well as the peltings of their more pitiless enemies, could alone have been the workmen; that the aborigines of America, possessing no knowledge of these things, until after their acquaintance with Europeans, could of themselves never have produced them; and, finally, that of all the nations of Europe, who might have had a hand in their formation, facts are in favor of the French.

If, then, there once existed in this country a people so far advanced in the arts of civilized life, as these relics indisputably prove to have been the case, the question very naturally arises of, What has become of them? this is not so easily answered. They may have been all destroyed at one fell sweep by war, pestilence, or famine, singly, or united. If my supposition respecting the introduction of Europeans among them be admitted, it will furnish a clew, which may enable us to thread the labyrinth, and to account at once for the disappearance of those people, and the origin of the *white Indians*.

Incorporated as I have previously supposed, with one particular, or several friendly tribes, to whom they taught the art of fortifying themselves in the field, and

Europe, as well as of the greater importance of iron, in the various uses to which it may be applied, thereby enabling them to be superior to their neighbours, in peace as well as war, gratitude to the authors of such signal services, may have induced those tribes to have clothed them with power and command, *privilegio gynæcei*.

Hence arose a race of light complexioned men, distinguished from their savage brethren, not more by a difference of colour, than by a refinement of intellect, and a knowledge of the arts. Superiority is always envied. Disturbances were excited between these tribes, and those who remained in a perfectly savage state; wars ensued and battles were fought, in which the white Indians and their allies necessarily proved successful, as, in addition to an equal portion of bodily courage and address with their antagonists, they were acquainted with the art of war, which taught them the utility of raising those more perfect specimens of fortifications, which have of late exercised the pens of so many ingenious writers.

Perceiving the great and decided advantages resulting from the mode in which their enemies carried on the war, a mode that enabled a handful of resolute men to resist an army, and having acquired some little knowledge by woeful experience, the *black* Indians hastened to imitate them, throwing up the earth and forming breast-works, behind which they could fight, retire for shelter when too hard pressed, and within whose limits they would be secure from a nocturnal surprise, producing a series of works similar to the former, but inferior in point of execution. Having made this approximation to an equality with their foes, superior numbers, combined with accident, may have turned the scales of victory, and gradually put the hitherto triumphant party in the power of their mortal enemies: extermination was the word, and thus the white Indians with the arts they cultivated, forever disappeared.

About the time when general Clarke first visited this country, an old Indian is said to have assured him, that there was a tradition to this effect—that there had formerly existed a race of Indians whose complexion was

lighter than that of the other natives, which caused them to be known by the name of the white Indians; that bloody wars had always been waged between the two, but that at last the black Indians got the better of the others in a great battle fought at Clarksville, wherein all the latter were assembled; that the remnant of their army took refuge in Sandy Island, whither their successful and implacable enemies followed and put every individual to death." How true this may be I know not; but appearances are strongly in its favour. A large field a little below Clarksville, contains immense quantities of human bones, whose decomposed state and the irregular manner in which they are scattered, as well as the circumstance of their being covered with an alluvial deposition of earth, six or seven feet deep, evidently prove that it was not a regular burial place, but a field of battle, in some former century. Relics of a similar description are said to have been seen in great plenty on Sandy Island, in 1778, none of which, however, are visible at this day, (upon the surface) which may be owing to the constant deposition of sand upon the island, and the action of the water in high floods, whose attrition may have finally removed every vestige of such substances.

ADDITIONAL CONJECTURES.

(*From the Letter of the Rev. Dr. Doddridge, of Brooke, Virginia, cited in the Archæologia Americana.*)

Who then were the Authors of our Ancient Works?

IF we look into the Bible, the most authentic, the most ancient history of man, we shall there learn, that mankind, soon after the deluge, undertook to raise a tower high as heaven, which should serve to keep them together, as a place of worship, and stand to future ages as a monument of their industry, their religious zeal, their enterprize, their knowledge of the arts. Unacquainted, as they undoubtedly were, with the use of letters, in what better way could their names have been handed down to their posterity with renown? But in this attempt they were disappointed, and themselves

dispersed through the wide world. Did they forget to raise afterwards, similar monuments and places of worship? They did not; and, to use the words of an inspired penman, "high places," of various altitudes and dimensions, were raised "on every high hill, and under every green tree," throughout the land of Palestine, and all the east.

Some of these "high places" belonged to single families, some to a mighty chieftain, a petty tribe, a city, or a whole nation. Some were places of worship for the individual, the tribe, the village, the town, the city, or the nation, to which they respectively belonged.

At those "high places," which belonged to great nations, great national affairs were transacted. Here they crowned and deposed their kings; here they concluded peace and declared war. Here the nation assembled at stated seasons, to perform the solemn worship of their deities. Here they celebrated anniversaries of great national events, and buried the illustrious dead.

The Jews, on many great occasions, assembled at Gilgal. The name of the place, signifies "a heap." Here was a pile of stones, which were brought from the bed of the river Jordan, and piled up on the spot where they encamped for the first night after they crossed that river, on their entrance into "the promised land." Let the reader examine similar piles of stones on the waters of the Licking, near Newark, in the counties of Perry, Pickaway and Ross, and then ask himself, Whether those who raised our monuments, were not originally from Asia? Shiloe, where the Jews frequently assembled to transact great national affairs, and perform acts of devotion, was situated upon a high hill. When this place was deserted, the loftier hill of Zion was selected in its stead. Upon Sinai's awful summit the law of God was promulgated. Moses was commanded to ascend a mountain to die. Solomon's temple was situated upon a high hill by Divine appointment. Samaria, a place celebrated for the worship of idols, was built upon the high hill of Shemer, by Omri, king of Israel, who was there buried. How many hundreds of mounds in this country are situated on the highest hills, surrounded by the most fertile soils? Traverse the counties of Licking, Franklin,

Pickaway and Ross; examine the loftiest mounds, a
compare them with those described as being in Palestii
Through the wide world, such places seem to have be
preferred by the men of ancient times who erected the
In England, Scotland, and Wales, they are thus situat

By examining Pennant's drawing and description
the Antiquities of Delvin, otherwise called Inch-Tuth
on the river Tay, the reader will see how much t
works on the Tay resemble ours on the Licking, n
Newark. Pennant, however, imagines these to
Roman works, but Boethius, the only authority quo
by him, says, that Delvin is a work of the ancient Pic
and was by them called "Tulina." The reader is
quested to compare the works near Newark, with th
of Delvin.

The same author describes two works on the ri
Loder or Lowther, and one near the river Eimet,
actly like ours in the west. The strong resemblance
tween the works in Scotland and ours, I think no m
will deny.

I shall not trouble myself to examine authorities,
to the works of the same kind in various parts of
British isles, because I might fatigue without instru
ing the reader. What has been said already, applies
many, very many others, throughout England, Scotla
Ireland and Wales. They were places of worship, bur
and defence, for the Picts, so called by the Romans,
cause they painted themselves, like the aborigines
this continent.

The acquaintance of the Egyptians with the useful a
ornamental arts, was of an earlier date than that of
nations around them. Their pyramids and templ
medals and monuments, show a comparatively civili
people, whilst their neighbours were rude barbarian
the former were shepherds, the latter hunters. In Egy
a lofty pyramid is a place of sepulture and an altar, wh
a rude pile of stones at Gilgal, is raised for the purp
of commemorating a great national event.

For many ages we have reason to believe there w
none but such altars. From Wales, they may be tra
to Russia, quite across that empire, to our contine
across it from the mouth of the Columbia on the Pac

ocean, to Black River, on the east end of lake Ontario. Thence turning in a south-western direction, we find them extending quite to the southern parts of Mexico and Peru.

In the Russian empire, mounds are numerous, and were every where seen by the learned Dr. Clarke, in his tour from St. Petersburg to the Crimea, in the year 1800. In his travels in Russia, Tartary, and Turkey, the author, in speaking of the country between St. Petersburg and Moscow, says, "Conical mounds of earth or tumuli occur very frequently. They are common all over the Russian empire." Again, the author says, "There are few finer prospects than that of Woronetz, viewed a few versts from the town on the road to Paulovsky. Throughout the whole of this country are seen dispersed over immense plains, mounds of earth, covered with a fine turf, the sepulchres of the ancient world, common to almost every habitable country. If there exists any thing of former times, which may afford monuments of antediluvian manners, it is this mode of burial.—They seem to mark the progress of population in the first ages, after the dispersion, rising wherever the posterity of Noah came. Whether under the form of a mound in Scandinavia and Russia, a barrow in England, a *cairn* in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, or those heaps, which the modern Greeks and Turks call *Tepe;* lastly, in the more artificial shape of a pyramid in Egypt; they had universally the same origin. They present the simplest and sublimest monuments, which any generation could raise over the bodies of their progenitors; calculated for almost endless duration, and speaking a language more impressive than the most studied epitaph upon Parian marble. When beheld in a distant evening's horizon, skirted by the rays of the setting sun, and touching, as it were, the clouds which hang over them, imagination pictures the spirits of heroes of remoter periods descending to irradiate the warrior's grave. Some of them rose in such regular forms, with so simple and yet so artificial a shape, in a plain, otherwise so perfectly level and flat, that no doubt whatever could be entertained respecting them. Others, still more ancient, have at last sunk into the earth, and

left a hollow place, which still marks their pristine situation. Again, others, by the passage of the plough upon their surfaces, have been considerably diminished."

How exactly does this description of Dr. Clarke's apply to our mounds in the west? Who ever described with more accuracy, that species of mounds of earth in Ohio, which were used as cemeteries? Unless we knew to the contrary, who of us in Ohio, would ever suspect, that Dr. Clarke was not describing with fidelity, our western mounds? In one conjecture, however, he is mistaken; that is, in supposing those to be the most ancient, which were but just begun. I have seen them in all stages, from the time that a circular fosse, with a hole in its centre, was made, until these mounds were brought to a perfect point at the summit.

In Scioto country, a few miles from Portsmouth, is a circular fosse, with a hole in the centre of the area which it encloses. The owner makes use of this work as a barn yard.

There is a work of a similar form between two walls, belonging to the works at Newark; and I have seen several on the Kenhawa river, not far from Point Pleasant, and others, left in the same unfinished state, in a great number of places. It would seem that where a ditch was to enclose a tumulus, this ditch was first dug, then a hole made in the centre, which was covered over with wood, earth, stones, or brick, then a large funeral pile constructed, and the corpse of some distinguished personage placed on it and burnt. An examination of the works already described, will amply justify these conjectures.

I have a brick, now before me, over which lay, when found, wood ashes, charcoal, and human bones, burnt in a large and hot fire. And from what was found at Circleville, in the mound already described, it would seem that females were sometimes burnt with the males. I need not say, that this custom was derived from Asia, as it is well known to all my readers, that that is the only country to look to for the origin of such a custom. —The Greeks and Romans practised burning their illustrious dead. It was practised by several other nations, but they all derived it from Asia.

In the same volume of travels, Dr. Clarke says, "Tumuli, so often mentioned before, abound in all steppes; and, in working the cliff for a magazine, or storehouse, where one of these tumuli had been raised, they found, in the sandy soil of which it consisted, an arched vault, shaped like an oven, constructed of large square bricks, and paved in a style of exquisite workmanship with the same materials."

We are told by the same author, that "The Cossacks at Ekaterinedara, dug into some of these mounds for the purpose of making cellars, and found several ancient vases." Such vases are discovered in ours. Several have been found in our mounds, which resemble one found in Scotland, and described by Pennant. Another, somewhat resembling a small keg in its construction, and a tea kettle in the use to which it was put. This vessel appears to be made of a composition of clay and shells. An urn was found in a mound a few miles from Chillicothe.

Thus we learn from the most authentic sources, that these ancient works existing in Europe, Asia, and America, are as similar in their construction, in the materials with which they are raised, and in the articles found in them, as it is possible for them to be. Let those who are constantly seeking for some argument, with which to overthrow the history of man by Moses, consider this fact. Such persons have more than once asserted, that there were different stocks or races of men; but this similarity of works almost all over the world, indicates that all men sprung from one common origin. I have always considered this fact, as strengthening the Mosaic account of man, and that the scriptures throw a strong and steady light on the path of the Antiquarian.

CHIEF CITIES AND TOWNS.

NEW YORK.

UNITED STATES.

(From Wright, Morse, and Original Sources.)

"THE striking portion of New York," says Mrs. Wright, "is too well known to require that I should describe it. The magnificent bay, whose broad and silver waters, sprinkled with islands, are so finely closed by the heights of the Narrows, which, jutting forward with a fine sweeping bend, gave a circular form to the immense basin which receives the waters of the Hudson – this magnificent bay is studded with silver-winged vessels, from the light sharp-keeled boat through all the varieties of shape and size, to the proud three-masted ship, setting and lowering its sails to or from the thousand ports of distant Europe, or yet more distant Asia.

Every thing in the neighbourhood of this city exhibits the appearance of life and cheerfulness. The purity of the air, the brilliancy of the unspotted heavens, the crowd of moving vessels, shooting in various directions, up and down, and across the bay and the far-stretching Hudson, and the forest of masts crowded round the quays and wharfs at the entrance of the East River. There is something in all this,—in the very air you breathe, and the fair and moving scene that you rest your eye upon,—which exhilarates the spirits, and makes you in good-humour with life and your fellow-creatures.

Approaching the city at sun-set I shall not soon forget the impression which its gay appearance made upon me. Passing slowly round its southern point, (formed by the confluence of the Hudson with what is called the East River, through it seems more properly an arm of the sea,) we admire at our leisure the striking panorama which encircled us. Immediately in our front the battery, with its little fort and its public walks, diversified with trees inpending over the water, numberless well-dressed figures gliding through the foliage, or standing to admire our nearing vessel. In the back

ground, the neatly painted houses receding into distance; the spiry tops of poplars peering above the roofs, and marking the line of the streets. The city, gradually enlarging from the battery as from the apex of a triangle, the eye followed on one side the broad channel of the Hudson, and the picturesque coast of Jersey, at first sprinkled with villages and little villas, whose white walls just glanced in the distance through thick beds of trees and afterwards rising into abrupt precipices, now crowned with wood, and now jutting forward in bare walls of rocks. To the right, the more winding waters of the East River, bounded on one side by the wooded heights of Brooklyn and the varied shores of Long Island, and on the other by quays and warehouses, scarce discernible through the forest of masts that were crowded as far as the eye could reach. Behind us stretched the broad expanse of the bay, whose islets, crowned with turretted forts, their colours streaming from their flag-staffs, seemed to slumber on the still and glowing waters, in dark or sunny spots, as they variously caught or shunned the gaze of our companions, who, as they hailed their native city, pronounced it the fairest in the world.

Notwithstanding the pleasant, opulent, and airy appearance of the city, an European might be led to remark, that, if nature has done every thing for it, in the way of ornament, art has as yet done little. Except the City Hall there is not a public building worth noticing, but it presents what is far better—streets of private dwellings, often elegant, and always comfortable. Turn where you will, successful industry seems to have fixed her abode. No dark alleys, whose confined and noisome atmosphere marks the presence of a dense and suffering population; no hovels, in whose ruined garrets, or dark and gloomy cellars, crowd the wretched victims of vice and disease, whom penury drives to despair, ere she opens to them the grave."

Mr. John Bromley, formerly of Shrewsbury, in a letter addressed to the Son of the Editor of this work, thus describes New York:—

"New York is quite as large as Liverpool, and

though the buildings are not altogether so handsome, yet the situation is full as pleasant, and as a seaport, much superior; it has on one side the East and on the other the North rivers, which are navigated 9 or 10 months in the year by Sloops and Steam Boats, the latter of which are very *lengthy* and commodious. Most of the streets are wide and well paved. Broadway runs right through the centre of the city, and is better than 3 miles long; it commences at a place called the Battery, which is something like the Quarry in Shrewsbury; it commands a beautiful view of the sea, and Governor's Island; in the summer evenings it is pretty well crowded with people, who go there to enjoy the cool breeze that generally blows off the water; frequently there is a good band of music, which makes it quite lively. The Battery is a fine open street, though not so long as Broadway, yet so straight, that you may see a mile and half in length.

Among the public buildings of New York, the most prominent and important is the City Hall, which is the most beautiful edifice in the U. S. It is 216 feet long, 105 broad, and including the attic story, 65 feet high. The front, and both ends above the basement story, are built of white marble. The New York Hospital comprises the Hospital for the reception of the sick and disabled, the lunatic asylum, and the lying-in hospital. The Alms House is a plain stone structure, on East river, 2 miles from the city hall. It is 3 stories high, 320 feet long, and 50 wide, recently erected. The State prison is on the Hudson, at Greenwich, about 1¼ mile from the city hall. It is constructed of free stone. The number of prisoners in 1814, was 494, and in 1819, 604. The New York Institution is near the city hall, and its apartments are occupied by the literary and philosophical society; the historical society, which has a library of about 5,000 volumes. Columbia college, formerly called King's college, was established in 1754. It has a president, 5 professors, 140 students, a library of 3,000 or 4,000 volumes, a valuable philosophical apparatus. A college of Physicians and Surgeons was established in 1807.

Among the other institutions are a theatre, Vauxhall

and other public gardens, an orphan asylum, an asylum for the deaf and dumb, a custom-house, 8 market-houses, 11 banks, 11 insurance companies, numerous benevolent and charitable institutions for the relief of the poor, the sick, the aged, the widow, the orphan, and the stranger.—The New York Society Library contains about 15,000 volumes, valued at more than 40,000 dollars.

In 1817, there were published in the city, 7 daily newspapers, 5 semi-weekly, and 5 weekly, besides several monthly literary, and religious magazines.—There are 57 houses of public worship, 12 for Episcopalians, 6 for Presbyterians, 1 for Reformed Presbyterians, 1 for Associate Presbyterians, 3 for Associate Reformed Presbyterians, 7 for Dutch Reformed Presbyterians, 8 for Methodists, 6 for Baptists, 3 for Friends, 2 for Roman Catholics, 1 for German Lutherans, 1 for German Calvinists, 1 for Moravians, 1 for Universalists, 1 for Jews, 1 for Seamen, 1 for Swedenborgians, and 1 for Unitarians. This city owns more shipping than any other in the Union, and more than half as much as the city of London. The amount of shipping in 1816, was 299,617 tons.

Few cities in the world have increased so regularly and rapidly as New York. In 1697, the population was 4,302; in 1756, 13,040, in 1790, 33,131; in 1800, 60,489; in 1805, 75,770; in 1810, 96,373; in 1820, 123,706. The inhabitants are from many different nations. More than one-third are of New England origin. After these, the most numerous are the Dutch and Scotch, and then the English, Irish, and French.

Every description of spirits are very low, best brandy 6s. sterling per gallon, common lower, rum from 3s. to 4s., gin not more than 2s. 9d. to 3s. 3d. the gallon; in fact this is a place where a poor man can enjoy the comforts of life. There are very few mechanics who cannot bring out their decanter of some kind of liquor or other, even coloured men who saw wood will have it.

They have a wretched practice here of what they call treating, that is if two or three meet together who know each other, one of them is sure to ask who's treat it is, then they *bolt* right into a grocery or rather a grog shop, which is readily found at at every corner of a

street, and if they have but six or nine cents among them they must have their glass: this often, induces the habit of drinking and ends in ruin.

The females are excessively fond of dress, girls in service will appear in their silk and Canton crape frocks, which renders it is no easy matter to distinguish them from their mistresses; and it is considered a complete insult to call them servants, they are all *assistants* here."

PHILADELPHIA.

(Harris's Tour through the United States.)

FROM Trenton, says Mr. Harris, I descended the Delaware in the steam boat Philadelphia. The fine weather, the rich prospects on either side, and the very agreeable company in the packet, rendered it an extremely interesting passage. The villages of Bristol, Burlington, and Bordentown, where the ex-king of Spain, Joseph Bonaparte, is laying out some of the spoils of Europe in an elegant mansion and grounds, break on the view at different windings of the river. As we approach Philadelphia, thirty miles from Trenton, the land becomes flatter, and the river gradually enlarges to about a mile in width. The extent of buildings, and crowd of vessels, point out Philadelphia as an opulent commercial city, though its distance of 120 miles from the sea, and being incommoded by ice in the winter, prevents it from rivalling New York.

The site of Philadelphia presents a parallelogram, formed by the Delaware on the east, and the beautiful river Schuylkill on the west; the streets running parallel with the Delaware are named Front, Second, Third, and onwards to Thirteenth; then Broad-street, Eighth, Seventh, &c. with the addition of Schuylkill, and designated north or south, according to their relative situation to High-street. No city can be laid out with more beauty or regularity, or better calculated to promote health and comfort. The principal, or High-street, is about 100 feet wide, and would have a noble appearance, if the old court-house, on a line with Front-street, and a range of shambles continuing to Sixth-street, did not

obstruct the view: they are, however, a convenience to the inhabitants, and on market days present a scene of plenty, not to be surpassed probably by any market in Europe. Other parts of the city are accommodated with contiguous market-places, which are equally well supplied. It is in contemplation to remove a circular building, at present on the angle formed by High and Broad streets for supplying the city with water; when the view will be uninterrupted to the Schuylkill. From this river the water is raised by very powerful steam machinery to a large reservoir, on an elevation beyond the one-arch bridge; from which every part of the city is plentifully supplied: plugs are placed at proper distances, by which the streets are frequently watered and cleaned during the warm weather: many of them are shaded on each side by trees, which though their roots are somewhat injurious to the pavement; yet the cool and pleasant shade they afford, fully compensates for the little damage they occasion.

The court-house, occupying the square between Fifth, Sixth, Chesnut, and Pine-street, is a good brick building of two stories; the lower part is divided into two apartments: one of them used by the superior court of judicature; and in the other, the deputies from the different states held their first congress. The upper story is appropriated as a museum: it has a good assortment of specimens in natural history, collected by Mr. Peale, some portraits of the principal revolutionary characters, together with a number of oil paintings by Miss Peale and other artists; a part of it is also used as a philosophical lecture room.

Among the rarities, and certainly one that excited no little curiosity, was a pair of Lancashire clogs; and while my attention was directed to the enormous skeleton of the mammoth, that of the company was chiefly engrossed by "the wooden shoes from the old country." The Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and Stephen Gerard's banking-houses, are neat structures: but what would probably please you most, for the neatness, order, and economy of the whole, is the Pennsylvanian hospital for the reception of lunatics. In this excellent institution, the situation of these distressed beings is ameliorated by

every method that even the philanthropy of a Howard could suggest. It is in an open, airy situation, and has extensive grounds, with gardens, for the recreation of its inmates.

The Episcopal church in North-Second-street, dedicated to St. Mary, and the Masonic-hall, in Chesnut-street, the only two buildings with spires, are also deserving of notice: together with the College in South-Ninth-street, the second Baptist church in Sansom-street, being ninety feet diameter within the walls, with an arched-roof and a dome; and the Orphan Asylum in Arch-street, near the Schuylkill. This institution was formed, and is supported, by the exertions, and managed by a committee, of the ladies of Philadelphia; who have also formed another establishment for the comfortable support of old indigent but respectable widows, and single women. One of the visiting ladies paid me the compliment to accompany me over the two institutions: in the latter one, you would have smiled to observe the extreme caution these antiquated damsels manifested when Mrs. M. introduced me, and the prudent queries they whispered to her, as to my object and probable designs, before they allowed me any further view of their comfortable retreat.

At the western extremity of High-street, a bridge of three arches over the Schuylkill, and roofed in the same manner as that at Trenton, communicates with the great western road to Pittsburgh; to which place waggons are always to be met with in the High-street, for the conveyance of goods, at from five to seven dollars per 100lbs. wt. About half a mile above this bridge is another, light and elegant in its appearance: it is of one arch, 340 feet span; also covered, and lighted by openings at the sides, and by lamps at night. The river has some picturesque and beautiful landscapes, as its meanders are traced upwards; of which many wealthy citizens have availed themselves, by erecting their villas in the finest situations for enjoying them.

The bridge over the Falls, six miles above the city, having been lately carried away by a heavy flood, the proprietor of the iron works there has substituted a singular medium of communication for his workmen living

on the opposite bank. A boat was at first used; but this was found very inconvenient, on account of the rapids. He then threw a wire bridge across, by first securing strong wire-rods to a large tree on one side, and the wall between two windows of the mill on the other: upon these he then suspended the wire-work bridge, and laying planks upon it, has completed a secure though trembling pathway of above a hundred feet in length for foot passengers. I saw several lasses trip over it very gaily, accommodating themselves very adroitly to its motions.

A canal is about to be cut round these rapids; by which the city will be more easily supplied with coal, fire-wood, &c. from the upper parts of the state; and in return will accommodate them with her imports.

The environs of Philadelphia are pleasant, presenting many handsome country seats and villages, that remind the English traveller of the avenues to the British metropolis. Frankfort, Bustleton, Chesnut-Hill, Mount-Pleasant, and the German-Town*,(where the severe skirmish took place between lord Cornwallis and general Washington, Oct. 1777,) are pretty specimens of the style in which the industrious American enjoys a dignified ease and comfort:

"From toil he wins his spirits light,
"From busy day the peaceful night."

BALTIMORE.

(Wright, Morse, &c.)

MRS. WRIGHT describes the city of Baltimore as singularly neat and pretty, and even beautiful. "Baltimore," she says, "is not the least wonderful evidence of the amazing and almost inconceivable growth of this country. At the time of the revolution, but forty-five years since, this city, which now contains a population of sixty-five thousand, and has all the ap-

* At German-Town resides Mr. Hawley, formerly of Cause Castle, in the County of Salop; an unsuccessful, but honest noble spirited Independent man.

pearance of an opulent and beautiful metropolis, comprised some thirty houses of painted or unpainted frame, with perhaps as many of logs scattered in their vicinity. Baltimore is spread over three gentle hills; the streets, without sharing the fatiguing regularity and unvarying similarity of those of Philadelphia, are equally clean, cheerful, and pleasingly ornamented with trees; and the poplar, which in the country is offensive, not merely to the eye, but to the understanding, being there destitute alike of beauty and utility, has a singularly pleasing effect in a city where its architectural form is in unison with the regularity and neatness which should every where prevail. You see here, as in Philadelphia, the same neat houses of well-made and well-painted brick; the same delicately-white doors, with their shining knockers and handles, and their steps of clean white marble, and windows with their green Venetian shutters. Considerable attention and expense have also been bestowed upon the public edifices, which, however, are chiefly remarkable for neatness and conveniences, seldom making pretensions to architectural beauty."

"A marble monument to the memory of General Washington has been recently erected, on an elevation at the north end of Charles street. The base is 50 feet square, and 23 feet high, on which is another square of about half the extent and elevation. On this is a lofty column, 20 feet in diameter at the base, and 14 at the top. On the summit of this column, 163 feet from the ground, the statue of Washington is to be placed.

The Battle Monument, erected to the memory of those who fell defending their city from the attack of the British on the 12th and 13th of September, 1814, is a handsome structure of stone, situated on a large square in North Calvert street. The names of the persons are to be inscribed on the column."

The following brief account of the battle of Baltimore, is by an English officer, who accompanied the expedition.

"Though the Americans maintained themselves with great determination, and stood to receive our fire till

scarce twenty yards divided them, yet they would not hazard a charge; but the whole army fell into confusion:—

'Infantry, cavalry, and artillery, were huddled together, without the smallest regard to order or regularity. The sole subject of anxiety seemed to be, which should escape first from the field of battle; insomuch, that numbers were actually trodden down by their countrymen in the hurry of the flight. Yet, in spite of the short duration of the action, which lasted little more than two hours from its first commencement, the enemy's loss was severe.

One or two anecdotes connected with this engagement are amusing:—

'It is said that when Admiral Cockburn, who accompanied the army, and attended poor Ross with the fidelity of an aide-de-camp, was in the wood where the latter fell, he observed an American rifleman taking deliberate aim at him from behind a tree. Instead of turning aside or discharging a pistol at the soldier, as any other man would have done, the brave admiral doubling his fist, shook it at his enemy, and cried aloud, "O you Cowardly Yankey, I'll give it you!" upon which the man dropped his musket in the greatest alarm, and took to his heels.

'It is likewise told of an officer of engineers, that having overtaken an American soldier, and demanded his arms, the man gave him his rifle very readily, but being ordered to resign a handsome silver-hilted dagger and silver-mounted cartouch-box which graced his side, he refused to comply, alleging that they were private property, and that by our own proclamations private property should be respected.'

WASHINGTON.

(Harris's Travels.)

"CONTINUING my route from Baltimore," says Mr. H. "to the intended seat of government, I passed through Blandensburg, a small town within a few miles of the metropolis, consisting of one long street in a low situation, and is known by the stand Commodore Barney here made, against the progress of the British

army. The position he chose was good, and though obliged by superior force, and the desertion of the militia sent to his relief, to abandon it, he is entitled to credit for the spirit he displayed on this occasion: at the foot of the hill on which his little band was posted, lie covered with sod some of the combatants of this day.

From this place to Washington the road is indifferent, the land poor, and apparently unfit for any purpose but that of building. Whatever were the views of the British commander in the destruction of the public edifices* at Washington, it had one great effect,—that of uniting the whole country in one determined opposition. Pre-

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* The officer to whom we alluded, page 68 says, "the army having landed in the United States, its first operations were directed against Washington, to which it met with no other obstruction than a slight affair at Blandensburgh, in which the Americans were defeated. General Ross first sent in a flag of truce with terms,

'But whatever his proposal might have been, it was not so much as heard; for scarcely had the party bearing the flag entered the street, than they were fired upon from the windows of one of the houses, and the horse of the general himself, who accompanied them, killed. You will easily believe, that conduct so unjustifiable, so direct a breach of the law of nations, roused the indignation of every individual, from the general himself down to the private soldier. All thoughts of accommodation were instantly laid aside; the troops advanced forthwith into the town, and having first put to the sword all who were found in the house from which the shot were fired, and reduced it to ashes, they proceeded without a moment's delay, to burn and destroy every thing in the most distant degree connected with government. In this general devastation were included the Senate-house, the President's palace, an extensive dock-yard and arsenal, barracks for two or three thousand men, several large storehouses filled with naval and military stores, some hundreds of cannon of different descriptions, and nearly twenty thousand stand of small arms. There were also two or three public rope-works which shared the same

vious to this, a great portion of the population were much averse to the war, hoping, from the professed disposition of the British administration for peace and amity, and its deprecating any thing like arbitrary measures, that conciliatory steps might have been taken, and have prevented the abhorrent spectacle of brethren seeking each other to mortal combat.

The capitol is recovering from the late devastation, as is also the mansion appropriated to the President's use; which, had it been totally demolished, had not been much to be regretted, as it is a disproportioned structure: the interior arrangement is bad; and the idea of purchasing the furniture in France, on the ground of

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fate, a fine frigate pierced for sixty guns, and just ready to be launched, several gun brigs armed schooners, with a variety of gunboats and small craft. The powder magazines were of course set on fire, and exploded with a tremendous crash, throwing down many houses in their vicinity, partly by pieces of the wall striking them, and partly by the concussion of the air; whilst quantities of shot, shell, and hand-grenades, which could not otherwise be rendered useless, were thrown into the river. In destroying the cannon, a method was adopted, which I had never before witnessed, and which, as it was both effectual and expeditious, cannot avoid relating. One gun or rather a small calibre, was pitched upon as the executioner of the rest; and being loaded with ball, and turned to the muzzle of the others, it was fired, and thus beat out their breechings. Many, however, not being mounted, could not be thus dealt with; these were spiked, and having their trunions knocked off, were afterwards cast into the bed of the river.

'All this was as it should be, and had the arm of vengeance been extended no farther, there would not have been room given for so much as a whisper of disapprobation. But, unfortunately, it did not stop here; a noble library, several printing offices, and all the national archives were likewise committed to the flames, which, though no doubt the property of government, might better have been spared."

economy, is preposterous; surely it would have l more politic, as well as patriotic, to have encouraged manufactures of the country; and their appearance w have been far more pleasing to the eye, than the sent tawdry finery which offends the sight in every ap ment. The unnecessary expence incurred by the portation of blocks of marble from Italy, to decorate capitol, is equally censurable, when different mar of the finest quality, are met with in every direc throughout the Union.

The city is rapidly increasing, but many intervals occur between house and house: the streets are laid at angles, radiating from the capitol, which, with President's house, being considerably elevated, will conspicuous objects from every part. The present p lation, including George Town, which is separated it by a branch of the Patomac, is little more than 20, When standing on the capitol hill, or on that occu by the President's house, I enjoy what may be calle enchanting prospect. If from the latter, looking d "Pennsylvania Avenue," a wide street of one mil length, shaded by trees, the corresponding eminen seen, surmounted by the capitol on the right, and in rear George Town, the growing city and distant m tains, with the beautiful Patomac in front, meande through the vale below, and as it flows,

"Large, gentle, deep, majestic,"

leads the charmed eye to follow in its maze. This the favourite stream of the illustrious leader in his c try's cause, on whose banks he passed the quiet of days, and now reclines in death, remembered and loved by all. Patomac, as she passes by his tomb, seems to ripple accents to his praise.

It was a lovely evening, when in the Washington ste boat, I took leave of the embryo metropolis, descen its beautiful river, the view of which, my last, from city, was intended to convey some idea of. It f through a bold country, much diversified, its banks corated with numerous country seats, many of then commanding situations; Mount Vernon, the reside of the late venerated Washington, occupying one of most conspicuous. It is now in the possession of

nephew, the Hon. Bushrode Washington, but will long engage that interest, which its original possessor must impress upon the spot where he reposed from the exhausting cares of public life. Not that he shrunk from its arduous and difficult duties; no, in the hour of danger, when assailed on every hand, when the treachery of some, the jealousies, cowardice, and desertions of others, seemed to render it a hopeless cause, his country found him calm, intrepid, and determined not to be seduced by the most tempting offers to surrender her rights to arbitrary sway; nor, on the attainment of her independence, when his fellow citizens in their excess of joy, and admiration of his virtues, would have raised him to the most exalted station, could he forget the true meaning of patriotism. Impelled by no vain desire of moving in a higher sphere, or of appearing superior to his fellow-citizens, Washington held out an example of greatness of soul, tempered with modesty in deportment, worthy of imitation; and in retiring to the station of private citizen, gave a striking proof that honours can be enjoyed, far superior to that which consists in the power of dispensing stars and ribbands."

PITTSBURGH.

(*Fearon's Sketches.*)

PITTSBURGH is, in several points of view a most interesting town; from its natural situation, being at the termination of two, and the commencement of a third river, which has a direct communication with the ocean, though at the almost incredible distance of 2500 miles; its scenery, which is truly picturesque; its exhaustless possession of that first-rate material for manufactories, coal; its original situation as an early military post, and remarkable for two defeats of the British, more especially that of General Bradock by the French and Indians, in which the great Washington first distinguished himself, though but a youth and only a militia colonel; and lastly, its present importance as being the connecting link between *new* and *old* America; and though it is not at present a "Birmingham," as the natives bombastically call it, yet it certainly contains the seeds of numerous important manufactories.

At Messrs. Page and Bakewell's glass warehouse I saw chandeliers and numerous articles in cut glass of a very splendid description; among the latter was a pair of decanters, cut from a London pattern, the price of which will be eight guineas. It is well to bear in mind that the demand for these articles of elegant luxury lies *in the Western States!* the inhabitants of Eastern America being still importers from the "Old Country." What interesting themes of reflection are offered by such facts to the philosopher as well as to the politician! Not thirty years since the whole right bank of the Ohio was termed the "Indian side." Spots in Tenesse, in Ohio and Kentucky, that within the life-time of even young men, witnessed only the arrow and the scalping-knife, now present to the traveller articles of elegance and modes of luxury which might rival the displays of London and Paris, while within the last half century, the beasts of the forest, and man more savage than the beast, were the only inhabitants of the whole of that immense tract peculiarly denominated the "Western Country:" which is now partially inhabited, and promises soon to be generally so by man—civilized man, possessed of the arts and the pursuits of civilized life. It is already the refuge of the oppressed from every other nation. May it become the seat of enlightenment, of private virtue and public liberty; and it may then, *but not till then*, expect to rank among the greatest, the most powerful, and the most respected of the nations of the earth!

Upon the whole, I consider Pittsburgh, in every point of view, to be a very important town; and have no doubt, although its prosperity is now at a stand, and property if not declining, is not increasing in value, that it will *gradually advance:* and that the time must come when it will be an extensive and very populous city. The present population is 10,000, made up from all nations, and, of course, not free from the vices of each: this indeed is but too apparent upon a very short residence.

A day previous to my departure from Pittsburgh, says Mr. Fearon, I called at Carey's Porter-house: Mr. C. stepped forward, and pointing to a young man, said, "Mr. Watson, Sir." For some minutes I did not comprehend his meaning. The person to whom he directed my at-

tention sat in a corner—silent, serious, and indifferent: he was short in stature and mean in appearance. Guess my surprise when I was informed that this Mr. Watson was no other than *Young Watson;* he concerning whom, for some months, our whole country was in a general ferment. I felt some curiosity to know the history of a person so singularly thrust into premature importance. His appearance greatly disappointed me, not on account of the poverty of his dress, for that I presume results at present from circumstances beyond his controul; but I had imagined Young Watson to be a daring, bold, enthusiastic, indiscreet young man. He does not seem, however, possessed of any one of these qualities: he is reserved, not from constraint, but habit, and habit of a kind that more bespeaks an absence of talent than the attendant of mind. The ship Venus, in which he went passenger, was hauled to off Dover. Two Bow-street officers went on board, having certain information that he was there. His face was painted; he had on a farmer's frock coat, stuffed; shoes without heels, looked stouter, shorter, and younger than described in the proclamation. He went on deck upon knowing that officers were looking for him. When he was standing by their side, Miss Wilson, a cabin passenger, fainted. Lavender, ignorant of his person, told him to take care of the lady; —examined the trunks of all the passengers, not excepting that of Watson, who continued supporting Miss Wilson. The officers did not believe but that he was on board, their information being positive; they at length whispered to each other in his hearing, "he is not here;" —they departed;—the ship got under weigh;—he conversed with all concerning *Young Watson.*—Upon arriving in America, Mr. Busby, son of Dr. Busby, who was a cabin passenger, enquired of an Englishman in New York, if young Watson was in America; being answered in the affirmative, he asked by what ship. "The Venus." "No, that is impossible, for I came in "the Venus."—"He certainly came in the "Venus." "Under what name?"—"Thomas Pearson." "Oh, I know the boy Pearson very well, we used to call him the proud farmer." He has got a situation in a school and receives 50l. per annum; is little known and less regarded.

Americans who have heard of him either care nothing about or dispise him for the political part which he has taken: in these few lines you have the particulars of a young man who has excited in no small degree the public attention. He did not express the least gratitude for the extraordinary assistance which, I presume, he must have received.

CINCINNATI.

(Palmer's Journal.)

THE city of Cincinnati (named after the Roman Cincinnatus) stands on two gentle swells of land, its front street is immediately on the north bank of the Ohio, opposite the mouth of Licking River; it is nearly in the centre of the western country, distant from Pittsburg, in a S. W. direction by land, 300 miles, by the river, 520.

The general appearance of the city is clean and handsome, indeed elegant and astonishing, when we reflect that less than forty years ago it was the resort of Indians, and the whole surrounding country a wilderness, full of wild beasts and savages.

The number of public buildings and dwellings in July, 1815, were 1100, and the population at that time was estimated at 6000; since that time there has been a regular influx of New Englanders, Kentuckians, Virginians, British, French, and Germans. The present number of buildings may be between 13 and 1400, and the number of inhabitants 8000,* all whites, the laws of Ohio prohibiting even free negroes, (except in certain cases) from settling in the state. Near 400 of the houses are built of stone or brick, many of them three story high, and in a very neat modern style; the rest of the houses are frame, most of them neatly painted.

Numerous manufactories are established here and in the vicinity: the following are the principal.

A steam flour mill, built upon the beach of the river; at its base it is sixty-two by eighty-seven feet, its walls

* Now about 12000, 1823.

are ten feet thick; the height is 110 feet, the number of stories nine; to the height of forty feet the walls are drawn in, and gradually diminish in thickness; above they are perpendicular. According to the "*Picture of Cincinnati,*" in its construction it swallowed up "6620 perches of stone, 90,000 bricks, 14,000 bushels of lime, and 81,200 cubit feet of timber." The building cost 120,000 dollars, and the machine is driven by a seventy horse power. There are six pair of stones, and when in complete operation, it makes near 1000 barrels of fine flour per week.

A steam saw mill, of twenty horse power.

A cotton and woollen factory, carrying 3,300 spindles for cotton, and 400 for woollen.

Four cotton spinning establishments, containing together 1,500 spindles.

A woollen manufactory, yielding sixty yards of broad cloth per day.

Two glass houses.

A saw mill, worked by two pair of oxen, on an inclined wheel, forty feet diameter; the weight of the bullocks ascending the wheel, works the machinery, without their drafting at the collar.

Two newspapers are published here, the *Western Spy* and *Cincinnati Gazette*, each issue about 1,500 papers weekly. Several respectable books have been printed.

Here is also a good public library, a grand lodge of Freemasons, a school of literature and arts, a university, (a nominal institution) a land office, and post office, at which nine mails arrive every week.

The public buildings are of brick, and would ornament an European city. The new Court-house is a stately edifice, fifty-six by sixty-six feet, and one hundred feet high; the apartments are fire proof. Presbyterians, Baptists, Friends, and Methodists, have each a meeting-house. Those belonging to the Presbyterians and Baptists are finished with taste. The Friends meeting house is a temporary wooden building. The Lancasterian seminary is a capacious structure, calculated to contain 1,100 scholars, male and female. There are three brick market-houses, the largest is upwards of 300 feet long.

The police of the city is respectable; they have, how-

ever, no lamps or watch, nor do they seem to require any. We boarded in the heart of the town, and our doors were mostly open night and day. Theft is very rare, the lowest characters seem to be above it.

The fourth of July, the anniversary of American independence, occurred whilst Mr. Palmer was here, and was celebrated with much energy. The morning was ushered in by bands of music parading the streets, and firing of cannon, (which continued at intervals through the day.) At eleven o'clock, three companies of volunteers, (consisting of a rifle corps, and two companies of infantry, one a fine company, just raised, called the Cincinnati guards) assembled near the landing, and accompanied by many citizens, two and two, marched in procession to the Presbyterian Church, the band playing, Hail Columbia! Yankee doodle! &c. the Church was crowded; numbers of well dressed females occupied the front seats. The ceremony commenced with an appropriate prayer and psalm; then the declaration of independence (as made by the colonists) was read; after which, an impressive national hymn was sung by the whole congregation, the chorus repeating at the end of each stanza:

Fathers, sires, heroes brave,
Who fought and bled for liberty,
The heavenly boon, we swear to save,
Whilst freedom has a votary!

When the enthusiasm occasioned by this hymn had subsided, an orator stept forth, having the national flag on one side, and a decorated cap of liberty on the other; his manner and language was rhetorical. He dwelt on the mild laws, the liberty, plenty, and comforts, which in common with their fellow citizens, the inhabitants of Cincinnati experienced; observing, what a delightful sight it was (and I thought so) to see men of all nations united as a band of brothers, to rejoice and praise the Almighty for the free government and numerous blessings which they happily enjoyed. Before parting, another hymn was sung, containing too much boasting and bombast; the two first verses and chorus were as follows:

When first the sun o'er ocean glow'd,
And earth unveil'd her virgin breast;

Supreme 'mid nature's vast abode,
Was heard the Almighty's dread behest.
Rise Columbia, brave and free,
Poise the earth, and rule the sea!
In darkness wrapp'd, with fetters chain'd,
Will ages grope, debased and blind;
With blood the human hand be stain'd,
With tyrant power the human mind.

ır Church, the citizens and strangers, who desired urned to a good dinner, provided at the principal rn; where the day was concluded with conviviality ıy national and philanthropic toasts and sentiments ıg given.

NEW ORLEANS.

(Various Authorities.)

EW ORLEANS, the capital of the state of Louisiana, is situated directly on the east bank of the Missi-i, 105 miles from the mouth of the river. In the 1717, this city was founded; and at that period e were not perhaps 500 white inhabitants in the le valley of the Mississippi: there are now nearly millions. In the beginning of 1788, the town con-ed 1,100 houses, built of wood; in March of that , by a fire, the number of houses was reduced in hours to 200. It has since been rebuilt, principally rick, which is of so soft a nature, that the buildings plastered on the outside with a thick coat of mortar, then painted or whitewashed. The city is regularly out, and the streets generally forty feet wide, cros-each other at right angles. In 1803, the number ıhabitants was about 9,000; at the commencement 819, the population amounted to between 36 and 00, and it is rapidly increasing by accessions from he states in the Union, and from almost every king-ı in Europe. A great number of new buildings were ted in the last two years, distinguished for size and roved style of the architecture. The hurricanes to ch this country is subject, will not admit of the houses ıg carried up several stories; but they have terraces walks on their tops according to the french fashion. public buildings consist of three banking houses,

two handsome churches, custom-house, town-house, market-house, arsenal, convent, jail, theatre, and governor's palace, built by the Spanish government. The *Place des armes* is a beautiful green, which serves as a parade. Most of the houses in the suburbs have fine gardens, ornamented with orange groves. The general style of living is luxurious, and the private dwellings are elegantly furnished.

It is upon the levee fronting the city that the universe is to be seen in miniature; it is crowded with vessels from every part of the world, and with boats from a thousand different places in the upper country.

The city of New Orleans will at no very distant period become to the United States, what Alexandria formerly was to Egypt, the great emporium of its commerce, its wealth, and its political greatness, in relation to the rest of the world; but it will also become the hot-bed of contagion, luxury, effeminacy, crime, treachery, and civil discord. The more we contemplate the present and prospective resources of New Orleans, the more must we be convinced of its future greatness. Being in the form of a crescent, the curve of the river constitutes a safe and commodious harbour, in which there were in May, 1818, 250 sail of vessels; it is defended on one side by the river, and on the other by a swamp that no human power can drain, and no effort can penetrate, the city can only be approached through a defile three quarters of a mile wide, which being protected by a breast-work, manned by 5,000 men, (for a greater number could not act) New Orleans, in point of strength, is another Gibraltar, and bids defiance to the most powerful and best disciplined invaders.

In December 1814, the British made an attack on New Orleans, but were repulsed by the Americans under General Jackson, with the loss of about 3,000 men, killed, wounded and prisoners. The loss of the American army is stated at only 7 men killed, and 6 wounded.

MEXICO.

SPANISH AMERICA.

(Various Authorities.)

THE original city of Mexico, or, as it was called, Tenochtitlan, was founded by the Mexicans in the year 1325, and was situated in the valley of Mexico, and a group of islands in lake Tezcuco.

Ancient Mexico, when it was first discovered by the Spaniards, was a rich, flourishing, and populous city, the seat of government and religion, and the great emporium for all sorts of valuable produce. Cortez, in a letter to Charles V., states it to be as large as Saville or Cordovo; and he describes it as possessing all the activity and bustle of a commercial town. "The streets (he observes,) I merely speak of the principal ones, are very narrow and very large; some are half dry and half occupied by navigable canals, furnished with very well constructed wooden bridges, broad enough for 10 men on horseback to pass at the same time. The market-place, twice as large as that of Seville, is surrounded with an immense portico, under which are exposed for sale all sorts of merchandise, eatables, ornaments made of gold, silver, lead, pewter, precious stones, bones, shells, and feathers: delft ware, leather, and spun cotton. We find also hewn stone, tiles, and timber, fit for building. There are lanes for game, others for roots and garden fruits: there are houses where barbers shave the head with razors made of obsidian; and there are houses resembling our apothecaries shops, where prepared medicines, unguents, and plasters are sold. There are houses where drink is sold. The market abounds with so many things, that I am unable to name them all to your highness. To avoid confusion, every species of merchandise is sold in a separate lane; every thing is sold by the yard, but nothing has hitherto been seen to be weighed in the market. In the midst of the great square is a house, which I shall call *Audiencia*, in which ten or twelve persons sit constantly for determining any disputes which may arise respecting the sale of goods. There are other persons who mix continually with the crowd, to see that a just price is asked. We have seen

them break the false measures which they had seized from the merchants."

The ancient city of Mexico was taken by Cortez in the year 1521, after a siege of 75 days, with a prodigious slaughter of the inhabitants. In the course of this siege, the place held out to the last extremity; and the Spaniards were at last so irritated with its protracted resistance, that they resolved to raze to the ground the different streets as they got possession of them, for the purpose of facilitating their approaches to the main parts of the town. Thus the ancient Tenochtitlan was completely destroyed, and the present city has risen out of its ruins.

Mexico is the most populous city of the new continent. It forms a great square, extending from north to south, and from east to west, about four English miles. The ground on which it stands is quite level; the streets are drawn at right lines from each other, and being very spacious, appear in general rather deserted. The town is surrounded with a wall of uncemented stones; and the channels which lead from the lake, disperse their waters in various smaller canals, which flow through some beautiful streets, and are covered with craft and canoes, which appear every day loaded with supplies of fruit, flowers, and other produce, and make their way as far as the walls of the viceroy's palace, situated in the great square. There are different markets, where there is a regular supply of every thing that the public can require. The city is entered by seven stone causeways, three of which were built by the Indians. The others are the work of the Spaniards. The public buildings are magnificent, and some of them of the most beautiful architecture.

The convent of St. Francis has a revenue, from alms alone, of 20,000*l.* The hospital has a revenue of 10,000*l.* and supports 1,400 children and old people. The mint employs about 400 workmen, and is the most extensive establishment of the kind in the world. The principal manufacture is the working of gold and silver in all its branches. Large pieces of wrought plate, vases and church ornaments, are annually executed to a great amount. The city contains upwards 100 churches and

137,000 inhabitants, of whom one half are whites, and the rest Indians, mulattoes, and mestizoes.

This beautiful city is supplied with water by two aqueducts, and its vegetables are raised on the elegant floating gardens of the lake of Tezcuco. There are three other small lakes in the valley of Mexico besides Tezcuco. The waters in these lakes used formerly to rise above their banks, and inundate the city and the valley. In 1629 there was a great inundation, which lasted for five years; and during the whole of that time the streets of Mexico could be passed only in boats. To prevent the recurrence of this evil various means were employed without effect. At first, a huge dike or mound of stones and clay was erected, 70 miles long and 65 feet broad; but the waters burst through it and tore it away. A subterranean passage was then dug through the mountains which surrounded the valley, to let off the waters; but the earth caved in and filled up the passage. At length a drain, 12 miles long, 300 feet broad, and in some places 200 feet deep, has been cut through a gap in the mountains, and this seems to answer the purpose. The whole expense laid out on these great works from the year 1607 to 1689, is calculated 1,291,770*l*.

Mexico is undoubtedly one of the finest cities ever built by the Europeans in either hemisphere. With the exception of Petersburgh, Berlin, Philadelphia, and some quarters of Westminster, there does not exist a city of the same extent, which can be compared to the capital of New Spain, for the uniform level of the ground on which it stands, for the regularity and breadth of the streets, and the extent of the public places. The architecture is generally in a fine style; and there are edifices of a very beautiful structure. The houses are not loaded with useless ornaments. Two sorts of hewn stone, one a porphyry, give to the Mexican buildings an air of solidity, and sometimes of magnificence. There are none of those wooden balconies and galleries to be seen, which disfigure so much all the European cities in both the Indies. The balustrades and gates are all of Biscay iron, ornamented with bronze; and the houses, instead of roofs, have terraces like those in Italy and other southern countries. The general appearance of the capital of

of Mexico is much heightened by the majestic character of the scenery by which it is surrounded. Nothing can possibly present a more rich and varied appearance than the valley in which it is situated, when, in a fine summer morning, the sky, without a cloud, and of that deep azure which is peculiar to the dry and rarified air of high mountains, is viewed either from the top of one of the towers of the cathedral of Mexico, or from the neighbouring hill of Chapaltepec. A beautiful vegetation surrounds this hill. From the centre of this solitude the eye sweeps over a vast plain of carefully cultivated fields, which extend to the very foot of the colossal mountains, covered with perpetual snow. The city appears as if washed by the waters of the lake Texcuco, whose basin, surrounded with villages and hamlets, resembles the fine lakes of the mountains of Switzerland. Large avenues of elms and poplars lead in every direction to the capital; and two aqueducts constructed over arches of great elevation, cross the plain, and exhibit an appearance equally agreeable and interesting. Towards the south, the ground appears an immense garden of orange, peach, apple, cherry, and other European fruit trees. This beautiful cultivation is finely contrasted by the wild appearance of the naked mountains which enclose the valley, among which the famous volcanoes of La Puebla, Popocatepetl, and Iztaccicihuatl, are the most distinguished. The first of these forms an enormous cone, of which the crater, continually inflamed, and throwing up smoke and ashes, opens in the midst of eternal snows.

CUZCO.

PERU.

(Various Authentic Sources.)

CUZCO is the ancient Capital of the Peruvian Empire, in South America. It was founded, according to the common tradition, in 1043, by Manca Capac, the first Inca* of Peru; and it is situated upon a rough and un-

* Inca, an appellation anciently given to the kings of Peru, and the princes of their blood; the word literally

equal plain, formed by the skirts of various mountains, which are washed by the small river Guatanay. The grandeur and magnificence of the edifices, of the fortress and of the temple of the sun, struck the Spaniards with astonisment in 1534, when the city was taken possession of by Francis Pizarro.

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signifying, lord, king, emperor, and royal blood. Pedro de Cieca, in his *Chronicles of Peru*, gives the origin of the Incas; and says that that country was, for a long time, the theatre of all manner of crimes, of war, dissension, and the most dreadful disorders, till at last two brothers appeared, one of whom was called *Mango Capac*; of this person the Peruvians relate many wonderful stories. He built the city of Cuzco, made laws, established order and harmony by his wise regulations: and he and his descendants took the name of *Inca*, which signifies king or great lord. These Incas became so powerful, that they rendered themselves masters of all the Country from Pasto to Chili, and from the Maule on the S. to the Augasmago on the N. these two rivers forming the bounds of their empire, which extended above 1300 leagues in length. This they enjoyed till the divisions betweeen Inca Guascar and Atabalipa; which the Spaniards laying hold of, made themselves masters of the country, and destroyed the empire of the Incas.

Peru was discovered by Pizarro, in 1524. The battle of Caxamarca, on the 10th Nov. 1532, decided the fate of that kingdom; and Atabalipa, the captive monarch, was treacherously and inhumanly put to death by the cruel and avaricious Spaniards. Pizarro, after having defeated *Paula Inca*, the brother of Atabalipa, entered Cuzco, the capital. Quito was next taken. In 1535, Pizarro founded the city of Lima, and employed himself in establishing a form of government. While thus employed, a new enemy started up,—the ambitious Almagro; who, in a decisive battle fought near Cuzco, was taken prisoner and beheaded. Two years afterwards, Pizarro was assassinated, on the 26th of June, 1541.

The viceroyalty of Peru, after being transmitted down from one governor to another, in a line directed more

"At that time, it is said, there was a castle built in such a surprising manner that many people, who saw it, imagined it could not have been raised without the assistance of enchantment. This fortress stood on the top of a hill, and on the edge of a precipice, which towards the town was perfectly perpendicular. Towards the country it was defended by triple semicircular walls, of such height and thickness, that they were proof against all the force that could be brought against them. Some of the stones were of such a prodigious size, that it was inconceivable how they were hewn out of the quarry, or brought to the place, the natives having no iron tools, no beasts to draw them, nor engines to raise them to such a height. They were dragged, however, by the strength of men, twelve or fifteen leagues, over hills and valleys, and along the most difficult roads; and there is one stone

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by the fortunes of war, and the vicissitudes of events, than by any regular plan of succession, terminated in June, 1821, by the capture of Lima; and by a declaration published in the next month, the independence of Peru was declared to be the wish of the people.

In the year 1742, an indian of the province of Xauxas, said to have been descended from the ancient Incas, attempted to establish the independence of Peru. He caused himself to be proclaimed king. His countrymen, in hopes of recovering their lands, their laws, and their liberty, flocked in crowds to his standard; but though at first successful, they were defeated and dispersed, after having made considerable progress.

The editor of this work would feel peculiar pleasure should he ever learn the fact that a descendant of the murdered Atabalipa first projected, or in some way powerfully contributed to the destruction of the Spanish government in Peru, and in the establishment of the present independence of the southern continent.

Our readers will have in their recollection the seas of blood wantonly spilled by the Spaniards in their conquest of south America. One wretch, *Carvajal* when expiring on the Scaffold boasted he had massacred with his own hands 20,000 Indians!!!

in particular, to which the Indians give the name of *Sycuca* or "The Weary," because it never arrived at the place for which it was designed. This rock is said to have been drawn fifteen leagues by twenty thousand Indians, over very rugged and uneven roads; but, notwithstanding all their care and strength, it got the better of them, and tumbling down the hill killed several hundred men, who were endeavouring to poise the weight. They raised it however, once again, and with incredible pains dragged it to the plain in the neighbourhood of Cuzco, where they were obliged to leave it, being unable to get it on the hill on which the castle was situated.

Between each wall of the castle there was a space of twenty-five or thirty feet, which was filled up with earth, and every wall had a breast work on the top of it. Beyond these walls were three large towers, standing in a triangle, answerable to the bending of the walls. The principal of these towers had a fountain of excellent water, brought to it by a subterraneous aqueduct, the source of which was only known to the Inca and his council, lest an enemy should discover the stream, and cut it off in case of a siege. This tower was round, and in it the Inca had an apartment, nobly furnished like the rest of his palaces. The other two were square, and contained rooms for the garrison, who were all of the royal blood. Underneath these towers were apartments as large as those above; and they had a communication with each other, by a subterraneous labyrinth, through which it was difficult for a stranger to find his way without a guide. It is said that great part of the new city of Cusco was built with the stones found in the ruins of this fortress.

The palaces of the Incas in Cuzco, besides the castle just mentioned, were very spacious and magnificent, some of the halls being two hundred paces in length, and fifty or sixty in breadth; insomuch that the Spaniards converted one of them into a cathedral church. The stones of these buildings were so well joined together that they needed no cement; but sometimes, for the sake of ornament, they closed up the seams of their structures with melted gold and silver, which occasioned the total destruction of most of them, the Spaniards sub-

verting the very foundations in hopes of finding treasure. Most of the apartments were decorated with figures of men, beasts, birds, and other animals, cast in gold; and on the walls, instead of tapestry, were plants and flowers of the same metal, intermixed with serpents, butterflies, and other reptiles and insects. It seems there were no chairs in these palaces, but the Inca himself sat on a stool made of gold, without arms or back, having a pedestal of the same metal. They had also cisterns of gold in their bagnios, and the utensils of their kitchens, and in the meanest offices, were likewise of gold; but they neither purchased houses or lands with this metal as we do; but used it as an ornament when living, and buried it with them when they died. The royal gardens were not only planted with great variety of trees, flowers, &c. but the figures of those and all sorts of animals were made of gold, and placed in the walks to adorn them. These magnificent palaces, however, were greatly inferior to the temple of the Sun, which was enriched with the greatest treasures that ever the world beheld. It was built of free-stone, and lined with gold, the ceiling being also of the same metal, though the roof itself was no better than common thatch. It was divided into several cloisters, or apartments; in the principal whereof, towards the east, was placed the image of the Sun, consisting of one gold plate that covered the whole breadth of the chapel, and twice as thick as the plates that covered the other walls. This image was of a circular form, representing the Sun with his rays darting from him, much in the same manner as he is drawn by European painters; and on each side of it were placed the bodies of the deceased Incas, so embalmed that they seemed to be alive. These were placed on thrones of gold, but on the arrival of the Spaniards they were concealed by the Indians, with most of the treasures of the temple.

This temple had several gates covered with gold; and round the top of it, on the outside, was a cornice three feet deep, consisting of gold plate. Besides the chapel of the Sun, there were five others of a pyramidal form, the first of which was dedicated to the Moon, deemed the sister and wife of the Sun; and the doors and walls

of this structure were covered with silver. Here was the image of the moon of a round form, with a woman's face in the middle of it; and on each side of the image were placed the bodies of the deceased Empresses ranged in order. Next to this chapel was that of Venus, by the Peruvians called Chasca, who was much esteemed as an attendant on the Sun, as the rest of the stars were deemed maids of honour to the Moon; and this chapel was likewise plated with silver. The third chapel was dedicated to thunder and lightning, which they looked upon as servants of the sun; and this was ceiled and wainscoted with plates of gold. The fourth was dedicated to the rainbow, as owing its origin to the sun; and this was also covered with gold, and had on one side of it a representation of the rainbow. The fifth chapel was an apartment for the use of the high-priest, and others who officiated in the temple, who were all of the royal blood; and this, like the chapel of the sun, was adorned with gold.

There was no other image worshipped in the temple but that of the sun, but there were numerous figures of men, women, and children, and of various birds, beasts, and other animals of wrought gold, placed in it for ornament; and all the vessels and utensils were of the same precious metal. We likewise read of a sort of nunnery wherein were kept a thousand or fifteen hundred virgins all of the blood of the Emperors, who were intended only for the service of the temple. Nor was it only in the city of Cuzco that a temple was erected, but almost every large town in the country had one adorned in the like sumptuous manner."

Cuzco is at present a large city, containing about 20,000 inhabitants. The houses are almost all built of stone, and are of fine proportions. The cathedral is large, beautiful, and rich, and of elegant architecture. There are, besides, nine other parish churches, likewise convents and hospitals, some of which have very ample revenues. The city still preserves many monuments of its ancient grandeur, and among others the great fortress. The jurisdiction of Cuzco was formerly very extensive; but it has been since greatly reduced.

LIMA.

THE SAME.

(*Morse's Gazetteer.*)

LIMA is the modern capital of the kingdom of Peru; also called *Cindad de los Reyes*, or City of Kings, was founded in 1535, by Pizarro. It is situated in the spacious and delightful valley of Rimac, an Indian word, and the true name of the city itself. It is surrounded with a brick wall, flanked with 34 bastions, but without platforms or embrasure; the intention of it being merely to inclose the city, and render it capable of sustaining any sudden attack of the Indians. The houses, though low, are generally commodious, and of a handsome appearance. They are constructed of wood, on account of the frequent earthquakes. The grand square in the middle of the city is of great extent and beauty. In the centre is a large and magnificent fountain. On its sides are the cathedral and the archbishop's palace, the viceroy's palace, the town-house and prison. The other principal buildings of the city are the churches and chapels, which are partly built of stone, and decorated in the most splendid style, with paintings and ornaments of the greatest value. The number of inhabitants in 1795, was 52,627, of whom about 20,000 were whites, and the rest negroes, Indians, mulattoes, and mestizoes. Of the whites about 3,000 were monks and nuns. Luxury in dress, and a fondness for splendid retinues, constitutes the prevailing passion of the inhabitants of Lima; and the public walks and malls are always crowded with carringes. All classes are fond of fine clothing, and wear the richest stuffs of Europe as ordinary dresses.

BUENOS AYRES.

PROVINCE OF BUENOS AYRES.

(*Vidal's Travels.*)

BUENOS AYRES is situated on the west bank of the Rio de la Plata, above two hundred miles from its mouth. Before it became the seat of a viceroy, it was considered the fourth city in rank in South

America; but it has since increased so rapidly in opulence and population, as to be held inferior to none but Lima; it is regularly built, the streets being perfectly straight and broad, unpaved in the middle, but having footpaths on each side. The houses are supposed to amount to six thousand; and the number of inhabitants, which used to be estimated at forty-thousand, is now reckoned not fewer than seventy thousand. Most of the buildings, both public and private, formerly had mud walls; but a Jesuit, who was employed to erect the church of his college, between seventy and eighty years ago, instructed the inhabitants in the art of making bricks and lime, and the city has since assumed a very different appearance. The architecture of the cathedral, and of most of the churches, is likewise ascribed to the lay-brothers of that community, who employed the Indians under their care in the execution of these and many other public works. Thus, it is recorded, that in 1688 and the following years, five hundred of these people were engaged upon the fortifications, the port, and the cathedral of Buenos Ayres. The latter is a spacious and handsome structure, having an elegant cupola and a portico, the design and execution of which are highly extolled. The interior is profusely decorated with carving and gilding. The dome contains paintings in compartments, representing the Acts of the Apostles. The church of the Franciscans, and that belonging to the order of Mercy, are next in rank; both have steeples and cupolas, nearly the same style as those of the cathedral."

QUITO.

NEW GRANADA.

(*Morse's Gazetteer.*)

THE volcanic mountain of Pichincha is the basis on which this celebrated city rests. The streets, except four principal ones, are very irregular, owing to the inequalities of the ground which are so great, that they entirely deprive the inhabitants of the use of wheel carriages. The city contains seven parish churches, a uni-

versity, with numerous convents, nunneries, &c. population is estimated at 70,000. The whites ma one-sixth part; the mestizoes a third part; the In one-sixth; and casts of different kinds one-third. is so happily situated, that neither the heat nor co troublesome, though the extremes of both may be the neighbourhood. This equality is constant, thr out the whole year, the difference between the se being scarcely perceivable; but to counterbalanc advantage, here are dreadful tempests of thunde lightning, and still more dreadful earthquakes, often surprise the inhabitants in the midst of sec On the 4th of February 1797, the country was s by a most dreadful earthquake, the face of the district was changed, and in the space of a second, thousand persons were hurled into eternity. The h of Quito above the level of the sea is 9,510 feet.

RIO JANEIRO.

BRAZIL—PORTUGUESE AMERICA.

(*Arago's Narrative of a Voyage round the World, d the years* 1817, 1818, 1819, *and* 1820)

"THE appearance of Rio is delightful," say Arago, "and few cities of Europe can vie w in regularity. I think it is larger than Lyons, a it is diversified by small hills, planted with grove gardens, the uniformity of the houses does not fa the eye. Almost all the streets are as straight as a and some of them are remarkably beautiful; those Direita, Alfandega, Ourives, and Ouvidor, rival other in richness. It is chiefly in the two latter tha *marchandes des modes* have their elegant shops, wh the same thing as to say that they are the mos quented.

The houses, though they have in general but story, have a very neat appearance externally, owi the balconies which adorn them. The arrangeme the interior is tasteless; and the dull and smoky a ments remind you of those of our Gothic chateaux the ground-floors are latticed, and the lattices

nd not a little to favour amorous intrigues, if love ccasionally sojourned at Rio.

The city is embellished by three or four places or uares. The principal is that of Rocio, where the thea- e, built by the king in 1805, is situated. In the centre f this area is a very elegant gibbet, surmounted by the rms of the kingdom, at the foot of which the nobles lone have the privilege of being beheaded. Some Bra- lians even assert, that this gibbet ennobles: few com- ioners," says M. A., "I shrewdly suspect, have courted is favour. The other places are, St. Anne's, which is a iere market for cattle and horses, and that in front of ie palace, which is every way worthy of the magnifi- ence of that edifice.

Rio contains one hundred and twenty thousand souls, ve sixths of whom are purchased slaves.

Fifty vessels are engaged in the slave-trade: I have en one of these arrive. The idea of these unfortunate retches being crowded together, devoured by vermin, xposed to all sorts of diseases and privations, wrings my eart, and fires it with indignation against a govern- ient, which thus traffics with the lives of so many thou- nds of individuals, because their colour differs from at of its own subjects.

In the street of Vallongo, there are at least twenty arts for the sale of negroes. There is no street in the ty where so much traffic is carried on.

These slaves are in general dull and reserved; there e others, of whom it might be said that they rejoice in eir chains. They are brought from the coast of Africa. hose who are shipped at Angola are marked on the reast with a large R, and in general tatooed. These elong to the governor. The others are bought at Mos- nbique and Madagascar. Those of Mosambique have ie incisive teeth sawed, and brought to a point. Those ' Madagascar are tatooed, and have very regular and ell executed designs on the shoulders and over the hole back.

They all subsist on manioc-flour and blows; the al- wance of the latter is too great, that of the former fficient.

It is still considered problematical whether the ne-

groes are men or brutes; they are employed as the first, but beaten like the latter. They are nearly naked, and I have seen negresses without any apparel whatever.

When a negro is purchased, his master throws over him a white tunic, bedizened with gold lace, and has him baptized, under the idea that this ceremony is sufficient to make a christian of him.

A slave who attempts to escape is flogged, and round his neck is put an iron ring, to which is attached a short sword, with the point turned towards his shoulder; and this collar he continues to wear till his master thinks fit to take it off. I have seen two negroes whose faces were covered with tin masks, in which holes were made for the eyes. They were thus punished because their misery had induced them to eat earth for the purpose of putting an end to their existence."

M. Arago is very severe on the monks of Rio Janeiro, whom he calls an ignorant and debauched crew. He relates various extraordinary anecdotes, among which are the following:

"A very wealthy goldsmith had, among his slaves, a negro from the coast of Mosambique, on whom he daily tried the strength of his arm. Ill usage and privations had rendered this poor wretch so imbecile, that every morning he went regularly and held forth his left hand to his master, who fastened it in a vice, while, with a large file, he filed away his fingers by little and little.—The fingers were all gone, when the master again summoned him, as usual, into his presence, and ordered him to hold out his right hand. Inflamed with rage at this requisition, the black seized the same file by which he had been so cruelly mutilated, and struck his master with it till he extended him lifeless on the floor. He then flew to St. Christopher's, and loudly insisted on seeing the king; the monarch ordered the slave to be admitted. The latter, throwing himself at his feet, confessed that he had just committed murder.—"Unhappy wretch! what induced you to perpetrate the crime?"—"Revenge."—"What had been done to you?"—Look at this mutilated hand."—"What fault had you committed to be thus treated?"—"I do not know."—"Let the witnesses be sent for immediately, and meanwhile let

his *man* be taken care of."—They arrived, and attested the innocence of the negro.—"You are free," said the king; "these two slaves of your master's are your's, and I give you part of his wealth to set you up with. Remember your sufferings and your master's punishment: go."

"A monk of Rio harboured revenge against a Frenchman, who had supplanted him with his mistress. He called a negro, and said to him: "Hark'ye, here are three piastres; they shall be your's, if, by means of this knife, you dispatch, in less than half an hour, the Frenchman who has just gone into that shop. Will you do it?" —"Give me the knife?" —"Mind; he has a hat in the French fashion, and a very short blue coat. I'll wait for you."—"Prepare your piastres." A man quitted the shop, and fell dead two paces from the door. "Wretch?" cried the monk, "you have not killed the man I described; you have committed an useless crime, and shall have nothing for your pains." The culprit, filled with indignation, and careless of life, named his employer, and delivered himself up to the crowd collected round the corpse. The affair was brought before the proper tribunal: the slave was sent to Angola, and the monk sentenced to two years' confinement in his convent."

"A few days since, the queen, passing through a street, heard violent screams issuing from a house. She stopped her carriage, and ordered one of her guards to summon the master of the house to her. "Who is it that is screaming so terribly in your house?"—"A slave, who is being flogged for stealing half a pound of sugar."—"How many lashes have you already inflicted?"—"Sixty."—How many is she to receive?"—"A hundred?" —"I request you to remit the rest."—"Your majesty shall be obeyed." "I thank you," said the queen, and drove away. She had reached the end of the street, when, suspecting the sincerity of the master, she sent back one of her guards to see whether he had discontinued the punishment, and the man found that he had resumed it with greater cruelty than before. The queen hurried back, and ordered the negress to be brought before her: "Fortunate for you," said she, "are the stripes you have received; they have obtained your liberty. As for you, wretch!"

added she, turning to the master, "you may rejoice that, by way of punishment, I merely deprive you of your slave."

KINGSTON.

ISLAND OF JAMAICA—BRITISH WEST INDIES.

(*Edinburgh Gazetteer.*)

KINGSTON, a seaport town of the island of Jamaica, constituted a city in 1802. It is situated on the south coast of the island, on the north side of a bay or inlet of the sea, in which vessels of the largest burden may anchor in safety. It was founded in 1693, after the destruction of Port Royal by an earthquake in the preceding year. The town, according to the original plan, was to be built in the form of a parallelogram, one mile in length, by half a mile in breadth; but it has of late years been greatly extended beyond this limit, by the addition of many handsome houses. It has two churches. The principal one is a large and elegant edifice, with four aisles, and a fine organ; the other, which has been lately erected for those of the Presbyterian persuasion, has also a very handsome appearance. There is besides, a theatre, a free-school established in 1729, a poor-house, and a public hospital. In the lower part of the town is the market-place, which is plentifully supplied with butcher's meat, poultry, fish, fruit, and vegetables. Of the latter, besides those usually found in a tropical country, are many American and European, such as peas, beans, cabbage, lettuce, cucumbers, artichokes of the finest kind, carrots, turnips, radishes, onions, leeks, and other small sallads. These are brought from the Liguanea mountains. There are also great quantities of the finest pine apples, which grow on the Long mountain. Strawberries and apples likewise grow on the higher mountains; and grapes may be cultivated to any extent in the lower parts of the island.

Kingston from its situation on a plain, which rises, with a gradual ascent, to the foot of the Liguanea mountains, a distance of about six miles, enjoys the full benefit of the sea breezes which blow regularly the greatest part of the year. Population, including slaves 33,000.

ISLAND OF SOMBRERO.

WEST INDIES.

(Authentic Sources)

HE Island of Sombrero is abont 3 miles long, and as many broad, entirely desert: but rendered interesting and worthy of notc, from the circumstance of or Jeffery, a sailor on board his majesty's brig the cruit, being left there in the year 1808 or 1809, by ptain Lake, as a punishment for having tapped a barof beer when the water of the ship ran short, and the w were put on limited allowance. The circumstances e thus related in Bucke's Harmonies of Nature.

Two months after Jeffery was put on shore, the Recruit urning to the same latitude, the captain sent a boat, th several seamen, in order to retake the man on ard; but he was nowhere to be seen:—and the crew ncluded, that he had been devoured by the large birds, ich frequent that barren rock in vast numbers. Jeffery, the meantime, having been landed by two officers, th only the clothes he had on, was left helpless and peless, to endure all the agony of the apprehension of ing devoured by birds, or dying of want. There s no shelter, and the heat of a tropical sun almost ove the unfortunate man to madness. The island be a low rock, after searching for some time, he disered water in some of the hollows, and a considerable antity of birds' eggs, and a few limpets. On these lived for nine days; during which time he observed eral ships pass in the distance, to which he made sigls, but without effect; until he was discovered by the ster of an American schooner, who took him on board, d landed him at Marblehead, in the county of Essex, the province of Massachusetts.

In the meantime, the conduct of Captain Lake having en reported to the commander-in-chief of the Westdian station, he was tried before a court-martial, and ntenced to be dismissed his Majesty's service. The rliament of Great Britain, too, having, at the instance Sir Francis Burdett, recommended a search for the fortunate seaman, he was brought to England, and rived in London in the month of October, 1809.

Those who saw him on his arrival say, they where particularly struck with the modesty of his manners, and the grave simplicity of his conversation. Deeply impressed with gratitude to Heaven for his preservation, there was a solemnity of tone in the artlessness of his remarks, that excited no small degree of admiration. He was then about one-and-twenty years of age.

Captain Lake's family having rewarded him for the sufferings he had experienced, Jeffery left London for Cornwall, where he was born, in order to visit his mother. He was met near Polperro by his father-in-law, who, soon after their first greeting, returned to apprize his mother of his arrival. The whole village now came forth to meet him; and nothing could exceed the joy with which he was welcomed. The meeting between him and his mother was affecting in the highest degree. She gazed upon him with bewildered anxiety, as if she could scarcely believe what she saw; but, recovering herself, they rushed into each other's arms, and for some moments, were lost in sobs and tears. Nothing but the arrival of Jeffery was talked of; while the joy of the villagers, and the tumultuous endearments of the mother and son, consecrated an evening, that will for many years be remembered in that village with the liveliest satisfaction.

Those tears are thine, which gem the eye,
  And all her tears and anguish smother;
First when an infant's feeble cry
  Proclaims the lovely fair "a mother."
And when that infant,— grown a man,—
  O'er seas beset with wild alarms,
(Contracting space into a span,)
  Shall spring into that mother's arms,
Who, that e'er felt as mothers feel,
  Would her soft, trickling, tears forego?—
Not all the gold, that burnished steel
  E'er won upon the field of woe,
Could tempt the mother, father, wife,
  To check the rapturous throbs and tears,
Which quicken into instant life,
  When that delighted son appears.

Ode to the Nymph of the Fountain of Tears.

QUEBEC.

CANADA—BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

(Gray's Letters.)

QUEBEC consists of an Upper and Lower Town: the Upper Town may be said to be situated on Cape Diamond, at least upon the *side of it*, which slopes towards the river St. Charles. It is much elevated above the Lower Town, and separated from it by a line of steep rocks, which run from the cape towards the river St. Charles. Formerly the river St. Lawrence, at high water, came up close to these rocks; but as the tide rises and falls here about fifteen feet, it gave an opportunity of taking from the river a considerable space; wharfs were built at low water-mark, and even at some places beyond it, and the intermediate ground filled up to such a height that it remained dry at high water. Upon this situation streets were laid out, and houses built. These streets run from the upper side of Cape Diamond down to the river St. Charles, a distance of about half a mile; they are of considerable breadth, and the houses are large and commodious; those next the river have attached to them very extensive warehouses (called, in the language of Quebec, *hangards*), and vessels come close to the wharfs to discharge their cargoes.

The communication from the Lower Town to the Upper Town, is by a winding street; at the top of which is a fortified gate.

From the area of the market-place different streets diverge, leading to the different gates of the city; viz. Hope Gate, Palace Gate, St. John's Gate, and St. Lewis's Gate, besides the gate leading to the Lower Town;—these streets constitute the Upper Town. Outside of St. John's and Palace Gate there are extensive suburbs, which are increasing in size daily. The population of Quebec and its suburbs may be reckoned about ten thousand souls.

The ground for a considerable distance to the south-west of the city of Quebec is called *The Plains of Abraham*, famous for the battle in which General Wolfe beat the French. These plains are nearly on a level with the fortifications, and widen as you retire from

them, to the extent of from one to two miles, preserving the level nearly throughout, but sloping *a little* both ways, particularly towards the river St. Charles, on the north. On the side towards the St. Lawrence the bank is of great height; almost perpendicular, and generally covered with wood where the slope will admit of it, which is not always the case. Notwithstanding the difficulty of ascent, General Wolfe, with infinite labour, contrived to carry his little army, and a few small field pieces, to the top of the bank, and took his stand on the plains of Abraham.

The French general Montcalm, as well as the brave Wolfe, fell in the engagement; very different however must have been their feelings in their last moments. The conduct of the Frenchman in rashly sacrificing his troops and the interests of his country could not bear reflection. Wolfe saw his troops triumphant; they had beaten the enemy: he died in the arms of victory*.

I have been on the spot, says Mr. Gray, where Wolfe fell, and a stone is shewn on which it is said he was laid. It is very much mutilated, from the curiosity of strangers who wish to carry off a bit of it, as a kind of relic. One cannot help feeling a good deal interested in traversing a field of battle;—the glory which we attach to the death of the hero who falls in his country's cause, sanctifies the ground on which he fell."

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* Gen. James Wolfe was born at Westerham in Kent, in 1725. He entered early into the army, and before he was twenty, distinguished himself at the battle of Lafeldt. At that of Minden, he gained additional laurels, as he afterwards did at Louisbourg, from whence he had but just returned, when he was appointed to command the expedition against Quebec. The enterprize was hazardous, and General Wolfe surmounted all obstacles; but just in the moment of victory, he received a ball in the wrist, and another in the body, which obliged him to be carried into the rear. In his last agonies he was roused by the shout, "They run!" on which he eagerly asked, "Who run?" and being told the French, he said, "I thank God: I die contented," and expired Sept. 1759.

PART III.—CHAP. II.

AMERICAN CURIOSITIES.

Mountains, Volcanoes, Caverns, Rocks, Gold and Diamond Mines, Rivers, Lakes, Animals, Vegetables, &c.

"Thou too again, stupendous Mountain! thou
That as I raise my head, awhile bow'd low
In adoration, upward from thy Base
Slow-travelling with dim eyes suffused with tears,
Solemnly seemest, like a vapoury cloud,
To rise before me—Rise, O ever rise,
Rise like a cloud of Incense, from the Earth!
Thou kingly spirit throned among the hills,
Thou dread Ambassador from Earth to Heaven,
Great Hierarch! tell thou the silent Sky,
And tell the Stars, and tell yon rising Sun,
Earth, with her thousand voices, praises God.
——And you, wild torrents fiercely glad!
Who call'd you forth from night and utter death,
Who gave you your invulnerable life,
Your strength, your speed, your fury, and your joy,
Unceasing thunder, and eternal foam?
And who commanded (and the silence came),
Here let the Billows stiffen, and have rest?
Who made you glorious as the Gates of Heaven
Beneath the keen full Moon? Who bade the Sun
Clothe you with rainbows? Who, with living flowers
Of loveliest blue spread garlands at your feet?
God! let the Torrents, like a shout of Nations
Answer! and let the Ice-plains echo God!
God! sing ye meadow streams with gladsome voice!
Ye pine-groves, with your soft and soul-like sounds!

Ye livery flowers that skirt th' eternal Frost!
Ye wild goats sporting round the Eagle's nest!
Ye Eagles, play-mates of the Mountain-storm!
Ye Lightnings, the dread arrows of the Clouds!
Ye signs and wonders of the elements!
Utter forth GOD, and fill the Heav'ns with praise!"

COLERIDGE.

VIRGINIAN MOUNTAINS.

UNITED STATES.

(*Heron's Elegant Extracts of Natural History.*)

"OUR mountains," says Mr. Jefferson, "are not solitary, and scattered confusedly over the face of the country; but they commence at about 150 miles from the sea coast, and are disposed in ridges one behind another, running nearly parallel with the sea coast, though rather approaching it as they advance north eastwardly. To the south-west, as the tract of country between the sea coast and the Mississippi becomes narrower, the mountains converge into a single ridge, which as it approaches the Gulph of Mexico, subsides into plain country, and gives rise to some of the waters of that gulph, and particularly to a river called the Apalachicola, probably from the Apalachies, an Indian nation formerly residing on it. Hence the mountains giving rise to that river, and seen from its various parts, were called the Apalachian mountains, being in fact the end or termination only of the great ridges passing through the continent. European geographers, however, extended the name northwardly, as far as the mountains extended: some giving it, after their separation into different ridges, to the Blue ridge, others to the North mountain, others to the Alleghaney, others to the Laurel ridge, as may be seen in their different maps. But the fact I believe is, that none of these ridges were ever known by that name to the inhabitants, either native or emigrant, but as they saw them so called in European maps. In the same direction, generally, are the veins of lime stone, coal, and other minerals hitherto discovered: and so range the falls of our great rivers. But the courses of the great rivers are at right angles with these. James and Pa-

towmac penetrate through all the ridges of mountains eastward of the Alleghaney; that is broken by no water-course. It is in fact the spine of the country between the Atlantic on one side, and the Mississippi and St. Laurence on the other. The passage of the Patowmac through the Blue ridge is perhaps one of the most stupendous scenes in nature. You stand on a very high point of land. On your right comes up the Shenandoah, having ranged along the foot of the mountain an hundred miles to seek a vent. On your left approaches the Patowmac, in quest of a passage also. In the moment of their junction they rush together against the mountain, rend it asunder, and pass off to the sea. The first glance of this scene hurries our senses into the opinion, that this earth has been created in time, that the mountains were formed first, that the rivers began to flow afterwards, that in this place, particularly, they have been dammed up by the Blue ridge of mountains, and have formed an ocean which filled the whole valley; that continuing to rise they have at length broken over at this spot, and have torn the mountain down from its summit to its base. The piles of rock on each hand, but particularly on the Shenandoah, the evident marks of their disrupture and avulsion from their beds by the most powerful agents of nature, corroborate the impression. But the distant finishing which nature has given to the picture is of a very different character. It is a true contrast to the fore-ground. It is as placid and delightful as that is wild and tremendous. For the mountain being cloven asunder, she presents to your eye, through the cleft, a small catch of smooth blue horizon, at an infinite distance in the plain country, inviting you as it were, from the riot and tumult roaring around, to pass through the breach, and participate of the calm below. Here the eye ultimately composes itself; and that way too the road happens actually to lead. You cross the Patowmac above the junction, pass along its side through the base of the mountain for three miles, its terrible precipices hanging in fragments over you, and within about 20 miles reach Frederic Town and the fine country around that. This scene is worth a voyage across the Atlantic. Yet here, as in the neighbourhood

of the natural bridge, are people who have passed their lives within half a dozen miles, and have never been to survey these monuments of a war between rivers and mountains, which must have shaken the earth itself to its centre.—The height of our mountains has not yet been estimated with any degree of exactness. The Alleghaney being the great ridge which divides the waters of the Atlantic from those of the Mississippi, its summit is doubtless more elevated above the ocean than that of any other mountain. But its relative height, compared with the base on which it stands, is not so great as that of some others, the country rising behind the successive ridges like the steps of stairs. The mountains of the Blue ridge, and of these the Peaks of Otter, are thought to be of a greater height, measured from their base, than any others in our country, and perhaps in North America. From data, which may found a tolerable conjecture, we suppose the highest Peak to be about 4000 feet perpendicular, which is not a fifth part of the height of the mountains of South America, nor one third of the height which would be necessary in our latitude to preserve ice in the open air unmelted through the year. The ridge of mountains next beyond the Blue ridge, called by us the North mountain, is of the greatest extent; for which reason they were named by the Indians the Endless Mountains.

A substance supposed to be Pumice, found floating on the Mississippi, has induced a conjecture, that there is a volcano on some of its waters: and as these are mostly known to their sources, except the Missouri, our expectations of verifying the conjecture would of course be led to the mountains which divide the waters of the Mexican Gulph, from those of the South Sea; but no volcano having ever yet been known at such a distance from the sea, we must rather suppose that this floating substance has been erroneously deemed pumice.

THE ANDES.

SOUTH AMERICA.

(Various Sources.)

ANDES, called by the Spaniards Cordillera de los Andes, an immense chain of mountains which, under various names, runs through the whole continent of America. They commence near the straits of Magellan in lat. 54° S. and passing along the coast of the Pacific ocean, through Patagonia, Chili, Peru, and New Granada, cross the isthmus of Darien into North America, where still pursuing a northerly course, they pass through Guatimala, New Spain, the United States, and British America, and terminate, it is supposed, on the Frozen ocean, in lat. 70° N. In Chili they are about 120 miles in breadth. Various branches diverge from the main chain, in La Paz, Potosi, and Tucuman, to the E. connecting the Andes of Peru and Chili with the ridges of Brazil. In Peru the Andes are divided into three ridges, and about the 6th° of S. lat. are united into a single chain. They again divide, on entering Quioto, into two chains, and farther N. from 2° to 5° N. lat. into three. The E. ridge divides the valley of the river Magdalena from the plains of Rio Meta. The central chain, which divides the waters of the Rio Magdalena from those of Rio Cauca, often attains the limits of perpetual snow. The W. separates the valley of Cauca from the coast of the Pacific ocean. Its highest elevation is scarcely 5000 feet, and it sinks so low in its progress N. that its course can scarcely be traced into the isthmus of Darien. The three chains are blended together in the 6th and 7th degrees of N. lat. After passing the isthmus of Darien, the Andes in Mexico are spread into vast plains, from 6000 to 8000 feet above the level of the sea, from which insulated mountains, or volcanic summits, covered with perpetual snow, rise to the height of 15,000, 16,000, and 17,000 feet. Several of the most elevated peaks of the Andes have been scaled, and their heights accurately measured by Humboldt and M. Bonpland. According to the observations of these travellers, who ascended to the height of 19,300 feet, Chimborazo rose 2,140 feet higher,

making its total height to be 21,440 feet above the level of the sea. The volcano of Antisana was found to be 19,150 feet high, and that of Cotopaxi only 260 feet lower. The Andes in the tropical regions, from their elevation, comprehend within a short space, every variety of temperature, and of the vegetable tribes. On the declivity, from about 3000 to 5000 feet above the level of the sea, there reigns perpetually a soft spring temperature, which never varies more than 7° or 9° of Fahrenheit. The limit of perpetual congelation under the equator has been fixed, by Humboldt, at 15,700 feet, and at 15,000 feet in the latitude of 20°. Between the tropics, from the level of the sea to the height of from 3000 to 5000 feet, cassava, cacao, maize, plantains, indigo, sugar, cotton, and coffee, are cultivated. Between the altitudes of 6000 and 9000 feet lies the climate best suited for the culture of all kinds of European grain. Beyond the limit of 9000 feet large trees begin to disappear. The grasses clothe the ground at an elevation of from 13,500 to 15,100 feet, and from this to the regions of ice and snow, the only plant is the litchen, which covers the rocks, and seems even to penetrate under the snow. The name *Andes*, is commonly applied only to that part of the chain which is in South America. The part in Mexico is called the *Cordilleras of Mexico*, and the part N. of Mexico the *Rocky Mountains*.

VOLCANOES.

COTOPAXI VOLCANO.

SOUTH AMERICA.

(Chiefly from Humboldt's Journey through Peru.)

THE loftiest of all the volcanoes of the Andes, which of late years have undergone eruptions, is Cotopaxi, situated about twenty-five miles south east from Quito. Its absolute height is 18,880 feet; and it consequently is about two thousand six hundred feet higher than Mount Vesuvius would be if it were placed on the top of the Peak of Teneriffe. Cotopaxi is the most dreadful

volcano in the kingdom of Quito, and its explosions are frequent and disastrous. The mass of scorio, and the huge pieces of rock, thrown out from this volcano, which are spread over the neighbouring valleys, covering a surface of several square leagues, would alone, if heaped together, form a mountain. In 1738 the flames of Cotopaxi rose two thousand feet above the brink of the crater. [An eruption occurred in the year 1743, which was preceded for some days, by a continual interior rumbling noise. After this an aperture was made at the summit, and three others near the middle of the declivity: in places which, previously to the eruption, had been buried under prodigious masses of snow. The ignited substances that were ejected, being mingled with a considerable quantity of ice and snow, melting amidst the flames, were carried down with such amazing rapidity, that the plain in which the town of *Tacunga* is situated was overflowed; and a great number of houses, with their wretched inhabitants, were swept away in one general and instantaneous destruction. During three days the volcano ejected cinders, while torrents of lava, with melted ice and snow, poured down the sides of the mountain. The eruption continued for several days longer. At length all was quiet, and neither smoke nor fire was to be seen, till the month of May, 1744, when the flames forced a passage through several other parts on the sides of the mountain. In clear nights, the flames, being reflected by the transparent ice, are said to have exhibited a grand and beautiful illumination. On the 13th of November following, this volcano emitted such prodigious quantities of fire and lava, as to occasion an inundation equal to the former; and the roarings of the mountain were heard as far as Honda, a town on the borders of the Magdalena, two hundred leagues distant. On the fourth of April, 1768, so great a quantity of ashes was ejected by the mouth of the Cotopaxi, that in the towns of *Humbato* and *Tucunga*, day did not break till three o'clock in the afternoon, and the inhabitants were obliged to use lanterns in walking along the streets. Another eruption took place in January, 1803, about twelve months after Baron de Humboldt was at Quito. This was preceded, as before, by the sud-

den melting of the snows that covered the mountain. For twenty years preceding this period, no smoke nor vapour had been perceived to issue from the crater; and in one night, the subterraneous fire became so active, that, at sunrise next morning the external walls of the cone, heated no doubt to a very considerable temperature, appeared naked and of dark colour. At the port of Guayaquil, distant fifty-two leagues in a direct line, the noises of this volcano were distinctly heard like continued discharges of a battery.]

Cotopaxi is the most regularly formed of all the colossal summits of the high Andes. It is a perfect cone, covered with an enormous layer of snow, which shines with dazzling splendour at the setting of the sun. The snow conceals from the eye of the observer even the smallest inequalities of the soil: no point of rock, no stony mass penetrates nor breaks the regularity of its shape. The crater, like that of the peak of Teneriffe, is surrounded by rocks that appear, when examined by a good telescope, somewhat like a low circular wall or parapet. It is extremely difficult for any person to reach the lower boundary of the perpetual snows. This difficulty was experienced by Messrs. Humboldt and Bonpland, in an excursion which they made in the month of May, 1802. They were unable to proceed any farther than this; and Baron de Humboldt, after an examination to the summit, from this spot, pronounces that it is impossible for any person to reach the brink of the crater.

CHIMBORAZO VOLCANO.

(The same.)

CHIMBORAZO is probably a volcanic mountain, for the track by which the travellers ascended, consisted of a burnt and scarified rock, mixed with pumice-stone, resembling all the streams of lava in this country; and it extended higher up the mountain than they could climb. The summit, therefore, which has a rounded appearance, is in all probability the crater of an extinct volcano. The bulk of this mountain is enormous. That part which the eye embraces at once, near the limit of perpetual snow, is upwards of four miles in breadth.

As seen from below, the extreme rarity of the air greatly contributes to the splendour of the snow, and the magical effect of its reflection, at the height of five thousand feet, gives to the azure vault of the sky the tint of indigo.

Carguairazo is a volcanic mountain at a little distance north of Chimborazo. Like some others of the South American volcanoes, its summit has sunk, after a long series of eruptions, and now exhibits edges bristled with points leaning in all directions. A considerable part of this mountain fell in on the night of the 9th of July, 1698. Torrents of water and mud issued from the opened sides, and laid waste the adjacent country. This dreadful catastrophe was accompanied by an earthquake, which, in the towns of *Hambato* and *Tacunga*, swallowed up thousands of the inhabitants.

On the subject of the volcanoes of South America, Baron de Humboldt remarks, that the grand explosions of those in the kingdom of Quito are periodical, but not very frequent. Cotopaxi and Tunguragua, he says, do not experience one of these eruptions in the course of twenty or thirty years. But, in the intervals, these volcanoes discharge enormous quantities of mud; and, what is more extraordinary, innumerable quantities of *fish*. The latter, he observes, is a phenomenon so common, and so generally known to all the inhabitants of the country, that there cannot exist the least doubt of the fact.

VOLCANO OF JORULLO.

(The same.)

THE grand catastrophe in which this volcanic mountain issued from the earth, and by which the face of a considerable extent of ground was totally altered, was perhaps one of the most extensive physical changes, that the history of our globe exhibits. Geology points out spots in the ocean, where, within the last few years, volcanic islets have arisen above the surface of the sea, as near the Azores, in the Archipelago, and on the south of Iceland: but it records no instance of a mountain of scoriæ and ashes, 563 yards above the old

level of the neighbouring plains, suddenly formed in the centre of a thousand small burning cones, thirty-six leagues from the shore, and forty-two leagues from any other volcano. This phenomenon remained unknown to the mineralogists and natural philosophers of Europe, though it took place but fifty years ago, and within six days journey of the capital of Mexico.

Descending from the central flat towards the coasts of the Pacific ocean, a vast plain extends from the hills of Aguasarco to the villages of Toipa and Patatlan, equally celebrated for their fine cotton plantations. Between the Picachos del Mortero and the Cerras de las Cuevas and de Cuiche, this plain is only from 820 to 880 yards above the level of the sea. Basaltic hills rise in the midst of a country, in which porphyry, with base of green stone, predominates. Their summits are crowned with oaks, always in verdure, and the foliage of laurels and olives, intermingled with dwarf fan palms. This beautiful vegetation forms a singular contrast with the arid plain, which has been laid waste by volcanic fire.

To the middle of the eighteenth century, fields of sugar-canes and indigo extended between two rivulets, called Cuitimba and San Pedro. They were skirted by basaltic mountains, the structure of which seems to indicate, that all the country, in remote periods, has several times experienced the violent action of volcanoes. These fields, irrigated by art, belonged to the estate of San Pedro de Jorullo, or Xorullo, one of the largest and most valuable in the country. In the month of June, 1759, fearful rumbling noises were accompanied with frequent shocks of an earthquake, which succeeded each other at intervals for fifty or sixty days, and threw the inhabitants of the estate into the greatest consternation. From the beginning of the month of September, every thing seemed perfectly quiet: when, in the night of the 28th of that month, a terrible subterranean noise was heard anew. The frightened Indians fled to the mountains of Aguasarco. A space of three or four square miles, known by the name of Malpays, rose in the shape of a bladder. The boundaries of this rising are still distinguishable in the ruptured strata. The Malpays, towards the edge, is only thirteen yards above the former

el of the plain, called Las Playas de Jorullo; but the vexity of the ground increases progressively towards centre, till it reaches the height of 175 yards.

hey who witnessed this grand catastrophe from the of Aguasarco assert, that they saw flames issue out he ground for the space of more than half a league are; that fragments of red hot rocks were thrown to rodigious height; and that through a thick cloud of es, illumined by the volcanic fire, and resembling a my sea, the softened crust of the earth was seen to ll up. The rivers of Cuitimba and San Pedro then cipitated themselves into the burning crevices. The omposition of the water contributed to reanimate the ies, which were perceptible at the city of Pascuoro, ugh standing on a very wide plain, 1530 yards above level of the Playas de Jorullo. Eruptions of mud, ticularly of the strata of clay including decomposed ules of basaltes with concentric layers, seem to prove, t subterranean waters had no small part in this ex- rdinary revolution. Thousands of small cones, only or three yards high, which the Indians call ovens, ied from the raised dome of the Malpays. Though heat of these volcanic ovens has diminished greatly hin these fifteen years, according to the testimony of Indians, I found the thermometer rise to 95° in the rices that emitted an aqueous vapour. Each little e is a chimney, from which a thick smoke rises to the ght of eleven or sixteen yards. In several a subter- ean noise is heard like that of some fluid boiling at no at depth.

Amid these ovens, in a fissure, the direction of which om N.N.E. to S.S.E. six large hummocks rise 440 550 yards above the old level of the plain. This is phenomenon of Monte Novo at Naples, repeated se- al times in a row of volcanic hills. The loftiest of se huge hummocks, which reminded me of the dis- t of Auvergne, is the dark volcano of Jorullo. It is stantly burning, and has thrown out on the north e an immense quantity of scorified and basaltic lava, uding fragments of primitive rocks. These grand ptions of the central volcano, continued till February 0. In the succeeding years, they became gradually

less frequent. The Indians, alarmed by the horrible noise of the new volcano, at first deserted the villages for seven or eight leagues round the plain of Jorullo. In a few months they became familiar with the alarming sight, returned to their huts, and went down to the mountains of Aguasarco and Santa Ines, to admire the sheaves of fire thrown out by an infinite number of large and small volcanic openings. The ashes then covered the houses of Queretoro, more than 120 miles, in a right line from the place of the explosion. Though the subterranean fire appears to be in no great activity at present, and the Malpays and the great volcano begin to be covered with vegetables, we found the air so heated by the little ovens, that in the shade, and at a considerable distance from the ground, the thermometer rose to 43°. This fact evinces, that there is no exaggeration in the report of some of the old Indians, who say, that the plains of Jorullo were uninhabitable for several years, and even to a considerable distance from the ground raised up, on account of the excessive heat.

In the opinion of the natives, these extraordinary changes I have described, the crust of earth raised and cracked by volcanic fire, the mountains of scoriæ and ashes heaped up, are the works of monks; the greatest, no doubt, they ever produced in either hemisphere. Our Indian host, at the hut we inhabited in the plain of Jorullo, told us, that some missionary capuchins preached at the estate of San Pedro, and, not meeting a favourable reception, uttered the most horrible and complicated imprecations against this plain, then so beautiful and fertile. They prophesied, that the estate should first be swallowed up by flames issuing out of the bowels of the earth; and that the air should after be cooled to such a degree, that the neighbouring mountains should remain for ever covered with ice and snow. The first of these maledictions having been so fatally verified, the common people foresee in the gradual cooling of the volcano the presage of a perpetual winter. I have thought it right to mention this vulgar tradition, worthy a place in the epic poem of the jesuit Landivar, because it exhibits a striking feature of the manners and prejudices of these remote countries. It shews the active industry of

a class of men, who, too frequently abusing the credulity of the people, and pretending to possess the power of suspending the immutable laws of nature, know how to avail themselves of every event for establishing their empire by the fear of physical evil.

GOLD AND DIAMOND MINES.

MINES OF VILLA RICA, &c.

BRAZIL.

(From Mawe's Rio Janeiro)

THE mountain on which Villa Rica stands, appeared to Mr. Mawe to be from eight to nine miles across, and was chiefly composed of slate. This mountain was once excessively rich in gold; and for some time many private adventurers collected great quantities of it. This they appropriated to their own use, without paying the royal claim of one-fifth part of the produce. Since the year 1711, however, proper persons have been stationed here, for the regulation of the mines, and now all the gold that is obtained is delivered to certain officers that are appointed by the government to receive it. These take one-fifth of the whole weight for the prince regent; and the remaining four parts are purified, melted into pieces called ingots, then assayed, marked according to their value, and delivered to the owners, with a certificate to render them current

About the year 1713 the quantity of gold obtained here was so considerable, that the royal fifth amounted to nearly half a million sterling per annum. The mountain became pierced like a honeycomb, for the miners penetrated every soft part they could find, and conveyed the cascalhao or substance dug out, to a convenient place to be washed. In rainy weather the torrents of water running down the sides of the mountain carried away much earthy matter, which contained small particles of gold, and deposited them in the ground near the base. When the waters abated, this rich deposit gave employment to great numbers of the people, who took it away and washed it at their convenience. Between the years

1730 and 1750 the mines were in the height of their prosperity. From this time they gradually became less productive, and, when Mr. Mawe was here, Villa Rica scarcely retained even a shadow of its former importance.

During his residence at this place, Mr. Mawe paid frequent visits to the mint; and he was permitted to witness every process that was performed there. In the smelting house he saw eight or ten small blast furnaces, which in form resembled so many blacksmith's hearths. The fuel used was charcoal. When a quantity of gold dust was brought by any person, it was immediately melted, purified, cast, and stamped. So that Mr. Mawe has seen men deliver their gold dust, and receive it in a form ready for use or circulation in less than an hour.

At a place where gold was washed, about six leagues from Villa do Principe, Mr. Mawe says, that a lump of gold was found of several pounds weight; and from the same place he obtained many curious and chrystallized pieces, and some specimens which weighed more than two ounces each.

On the arrival of the Travellers at *Tejuco*, they took up their abode in the principal inn of the place, a house which contained some neat rooms, and afforded tolerable accommodations. This town is built on the side of a mountain, and in a narrow valley which runs along its bottom

The governor of the diamond district, having learned that Mr. Mawe was expected, came to Tejuco to meet him, and on the morning of Monday the 18th of Sept. they set out together on a journey to the great diamond works, at Mondanga, on the banks of the river Jigitonhonha. At these works about a thousand negroes were at this time employed.

The method of washing for diamonds is as follows:—a shed consisting of upright posts, and a roof thatched with long grass is erected in the form of a parallelogram twenty-five or thirty yards long, and about fifteeen yards wide Down the middle of the area of this shed a current of water is conveyed through a canal covered with strong planks, on which the cascalhao is laid, two or three feet thick On the other side of the area is a flooring of planks, embedded in clay, four or five yards wide, ex-

ding the whole length of the shed; and having a gen-
slope from the canal. This flooring is divided by
ans of planks placed edgewise, into about twenty
partments or troughs, each about three feet wide.
e upper ends of these troughs communicate with the
al, and are so formed that water is admitted into
m between two planks, that are placed about an inch
nder. Through this opening the current falls, about
inches, into the trough, and may be directed to any
t of it, or, if necessary, even stopped entirely out by
mall quantity of clay. At the lower ends of the troughs
hannel is dug, to carry off the water.

At equal distances, on the heap of cascalhao, which
ends the whole length of the shed, are placed three
h chairs for the officers or overseers. After these
cers are seated, the negroes enter the troughs, each
vided with a rake of peculiar form, with which he
es into the trough from fifty to eighty pounds weight
cascalhao. The water being then let in, the cascalhao
spread about and continually raked up to the head of
trough, so as to be kept in constant motion. This
eration is performed for about a quarter of an hour:
water then begins to run clearer, in consequence of
earthy particles having been washed away. After
is the gravel-like matter that remains is raked up to
e end of the trough; and, as soon as the current flows
ay quite clear, and the largest stones are thrown out,
d afterwards those of inferior size; and then the whole
ntents of the troughs are examined with great care for
amonds.

When a negro has found a diamond, he immediately
nds upright and clasps his hands, and then extends
em, holding the gem between his fore-finger and
umb. An overseer receives it from him, and deposits
in a gamella or bowl, which is suspended from the
ntre of the building, half full of water. In this vessel
l the diamonds found in the course of the day are
aced; and, at the close of the work, they are taken
t and delivered to the principal officer, who, after
ving weighed them, registers the particulars in a book
pt for that purpose.

When a negro is fortunate enough to find a diamond of

the weight of an octavo (17½ carats*), much ceremony takes place. He is crowned with a wreath of flowers, and is carried in procession to the administrator, who gives him his freedom. He also receives a present of new clothes, and is permitted to work on his own account. When a stone of eight or ten carats weight is found, the negro receives two new shirts, a new suit of clothes, a hat, and a handsome knife. For smaller stones proportionate rewards are given.

Many precautions are requisite to prevent the negroes from embezzling diamonds. Although they work in a bent position, and consequently never know whether the overseers be watching them or not, yet it is easy for them to omit gathering any that they see; and to place them in a corner of the trough, for the purpose of secreting them at their leisure hours. To prevent this, they are frequently changed while the operation is going on. A word of command being given by the overseers, they instantly move into each others troughs, so that no opportunity of collusion can take place. If a negro be suspected of having swallowed a diamond, he is confined in a strong room until the fact be ascertained. The punishment inflicted for smuggling diamonds is imprisonment and chastisement.

Mr. Mawe having detailed the process of washing for diamonds, he proceeds to a general description of the situations in which these stones are found.

During the five days that he was at Mandanga, the whole number of diamonds that were found amounted only to forty, the largest of them was only of four carats weight, and was of a light green colour.

After this Mr. M. was conducted to a diamond work, called *Montero*, about two miles up the river; and, about a league farther, to a gold work, called *Carapata*. While he was here, six negroes, in the course of four hours, found as much gold as weighed near twenty ounces.

In the afternoon the party returned to *Tejuco*. In

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* A carat is equal to four jeweller's grains, seven of which are equal to six grains of troy weight.

asury at Tejuco are deposited, monthly, all such
ds as are received from the different works in
ghbourhood. They are carefully weighed, and
f them are selected and kept separate. The
quantity obtained may be estimated at from
thousand to twenty-five thousand carats annually.
re afterwards sent, under a military escort to
e there lodged in the treasury. They are tied up
silk bags; and are deposited in elegant cabinets;
e whole are locked up in strong chests bound
n.

d been the intention of Mr. M. to continue his
eastward from Tejuco, to a celebrated mining
, called *Minas Novas;* but he was prevented by
rom accomplishing this intention,

ome distance from Tejuco is a rivulet called
celebrated for having produced the largest dia-
which the prince regent of Portugal ever pos-
It was found, about the year 1800, by three
o had been banished for their crimes into the in-
f that country. These men, who had been for-
o approach any of the capital towns, or to remain
ed society, endeavoured to explore new mines,
quented parts of the country, in the hope that,
or later, they might have the good fortune to
me important discovery, which would obtain a
of their sentence. They wandered about for
an six years, during which time, though exposed
sive hardships and fatigue, they made frequent
s in the various rivers of the adjacent districts.
th they accidentally made some trials in the river
at a time when its waters were particularly low;
y had the good fortune to discover a diamond
s nearly an ounce in weight. Elated by this dis-
which, at first, they could scarcely believe to be
id hesitating between a dread of the rigorous
ative to diamonds, and the hope of recovering
perty, they ventured to consult a clergyman of
hbourhood. This gentleman advised that they
rust to the mercy of the state: he accompanied
o Villa Rica, and procured them access to the
r. They threw themselves at his feet; delivered

the gem on which their hopes rested, and related to him all the circumstances connected with the discovery of it. The governor, astonished at its magnitude, called for the officers of the jewel department, to ascertain whether it really was a diamond. This was soon decided; and, being thus in possession of the largest diamond that had ever been found in America, he determined to suspend the sentence of the men, as a reward for their having delivered it to him; and to send it immediately to Lisbon, and the clergyman along with it, to state the particulars concerning its discovery. The sovereign confirmed the pardon of the delinquents, and rewarded the clergyman for the trouble he had undergone.

GOLD AND SILVER MINES.

SOUTH AMERICA.

(Modern Travels.)

THE mountains of less height, which occupy the central parts of Peru, abound in *mines* of gold, silver, copper, and other metals; and the most valuable and productive mines are always found in mountains of the most desolate and unpromising appearance. The business of mining is here carried on to a great extent. In the year 1791, there were wrought sixty-nine mines of gold, seven hundred and eighty-four of silver, four of quicksilver, four of copper, and twelve of lead; and the average profits of the gold and silver mines of Peru, estimated on ten years preceding 1789, amounted to nearly three millions and a half of dollars per annum. There is a famous mine of quicksilver at *Guancavelica*. This mine was discovered in 1566. It was purchased by the king of Spain four years afterwards, and, since that time, has continued to be a part of the royal domains.

Potosi is a place of considerable celebrity, on account of the numerous and valuable *silver mines* in its vicinity. The origin of these is stated to have been accidental. In the year 1545, an Indian was pursuing some wild goats to the mountain of Potosi, when arriving at a very steep part, he laid hold of a small shrub, in order to ascend with greater security; but the shrub giving way, was

torn up by the roots, and discovered beneath it a mass of silver. On further examination, the Indian found some lumps of the same metal among the clods which adhered to the roots. For a little while he kept the discovery secret, and applied the silver which he collected to his own use. His resources were, however, at length made known, and the mine was worked without delay, and with so much advantage that, for a long time, it is said to have weekly produced silver to the value of near forty thousand dollars. The mountain in which this silver was found, consists of a yellowish kind of clay slate. It is about twenty miles in circumference, three thousand eight hundred feet high, and is now perforated by more than three hundred shafts or pits. It is wholly destitute of vegetation, in consequence of the numerous furnaces that are employed upon it; and these in the night form a grand and singular spectacle. The veins of silver were at first so near the surface, that the ore was easily extracted; and this was so rich that it was refined with little trouble, and at small expense. For about thirty years the simple mode of refining by fusion was adopted; but, since that period, mercury or quicksilver has been used in the operation. An hundred and twenty mills were formerly employed; but the produce of the mines has of late been greatly diminished.

At the royal mine town of *Guancavelica*, the mountains are so rich in gold, silver, quicksilver, copper, and lead, that, if the mines were wrought even with moderate industry and skill, they might be made to yield a greater quantity of the metals than would be requisite for the supply of the whole world. And, says Mr. Helms, it is perhaps a fortunate circumstance that the ignorance of the miners and the oppressive measures of the Spanish government should hitherto have prevented more from being drawn from this inexhaustible source than has been hitherto obtained, otherwise, in Europe, gold and silver must have been depreciated to an inconvenient degree.

Guancavelica is peculiarly celebrated on account of its rich quicksilver mine. This had however been wrought in the most ignorant manner imaginable. Yet, when Mr. Helms was here, though the pit had fallen in,

and only part of the mine was accessible, it still produced annually about fifteen hundred weight of quicksilver. It will afford some proof of the ignorance of the persons concerned in this mine, when it is stated, that a thick stratum of red arsenic and yellow orpiment, which lay contiguous to it, was mistaken by the superintendant for cinnabar; and some hundreds of workmen perished in the operation of melting it. The quicksilver is obtained from the kind of ore called cinnabar, the vein of which is not less than two hundred yards in extent.

Mr. Helms concludes his account of this country with a few general observations relative to the gold and silver mines of La Plata and Peru. These, he observes, are here the chief source of riches. The inland trade of the provinces is inconsiderable, on account of the want of culture and the thinness of the population; and the foreign commerce is almost entirely in the hands of Europeans. Nearly all the mines in Peru, he says, were first opened by deserters from the army and navy, and by other persons without capital. These mines continued to be worked, without any observance of the mine-laws and regulations, and when Mr. Helms was here, most of the mines were in this wretched condition.

From the 1st of January to the 31st of December, 1790, there were coined in the royal mints of Lima, Potosi, and St Jago, gold to the value of about three hundred and thirty thousand pounds, and silver to the value of one million eight hundred and forty thousand pounds sterling. In the mints at Mexico, he says the value of the gold and silver coined during the same period was about three million three hundred and twelve thousand pounds. If to these sums be added the value of the gold and silver that is fabricated into various utensils for churches, convents, and private persons, and of such as are clandestinely exported by merchants without being coined, it is supposed that the whole annual produce of La Plata, Peru, and Mexico, would amount to little less than nine millions sterling per annum.

CAVERNS.

THE MAMMOTH CAVE.

(From the Liverpool Kaleidoscope.)

IN passing from Barren to Warren county, says Mr. Farnham, I visited an immense Cave, which by way of distinguishing it from numerous others in this part of the country, is called the Mammoth Cave. It is owned by some gentlemen of Lexington with whom I am acquainted, who manufacture from the earth found in it, a vast quantity of saltpetre. By a steep precipice you descend to its mouth, which seems like some frightful chasm in nature, whose hideous yawn allures the adventurer to its interior, only to bury him in eternal darkness.

After passing the entrance, the Cave gradually opens till you have a wall of sixty or seventy feet high, with a width of from one to three or four feet.

The Cave has been penetrated to the distance of between nine and ten miles, without coming to a boundary, although it requires much labour and expence to clear away the rocks to continue the passage after going nine miles. This Cave is more remarkable for its immense extent than for the beauty or variety of its productions, or the curiosities found in it. There are numerous pillars, some of immense size and fantastic form and shape, formed by the petrefactions of water; but none of the beautful stalactites and crystallizations, which are found in many other caves. There are several forks, from one to two miles long diverging from the main Cave.

But the greatest curiosity of the cave, is an Indian Mummy, a female, whose flesh and muscles had been dried to the bones, and kept in so great a state of preservation, by the influence probably of saltpetre, that many of the features were distinctly discernible. The shape and conformation of the ears were perfectly preserved, and the hands, fingers, and toe-nails. The teeth all in their proper places; the lips, though dried, were yet coral in their appearance; much of the hair was perfect; and, the whole carcase, and its mode of burial, have furnished to all who have seen it, a copious topic of admiration and conjecture.

CAVE IN RUTLAND COUNTY.

UNITED STATES.

(*Blowe's America.*

IN the township of Tinmouth, in Rutland County, on the side of a small hill, is a very curious cave. The chasm at its entrance is about four feet in circumference: entering this, you descend 104 feet, and then enter a spacious room, twenty feet in breadth, and 100 in length; the angle of descent being about forty-five degrees. The roof of this cavern is composed of rock, through which the water is continually filtering; and the stalactites which hang from the roof, appear like icicles on the eaves of houses, and are continually increased in number and magnitude. The bottom and sides are daily incrusting with spar and other mineral substances; and on the sides of this subterraneous hall are tables, chairs, benches, &c. which appear to have been artificially carved. This richly ornamented room, when illuminated with the candles of the guides, has an enchanting effect upon the eye of the spectator. At the end of this cave is a circular hole of a conical form, fifteen feet deep, and at the bottom a spring of fresh water in continual motion, like the boiling of a pot; its depth has never been sounded.

SURPRISING CAVERN.

THE SAME.

(*Literary Chronicle*, 1822.)

THE following interesting account of a most extraordinary cavern, recently discovered in Jefferson county, in the United States, is copied from the *Watertown Republican* of the 14th of May:—

There was discovered about three weeks since, on the north bank of the Black river, upon the land of James Le Ray, Esq. opposite the village of Watertown, an extraordinary cavern or grotto; the mouth of which is about ten rods from the river, north of the fall of Cowan's Island.

The great extent of the cavern, and the number of spacious rooms, halls, and chambers into which it is di-

d the immense quantities of calcareous concre-
ch it contains, and different states of those con-
from the consistence of lime and water to that of
beautiful stalactites as hard as marble, render
t if not impossible to describe it, and I shall
mpt to give a faint description of three or four

outh of the cavern is in a small hollow, about
elow the surrounding surface of the earth; you
end sixteen and a half feet into a room about 16
t, and eight feet high; and behold in front of
e flat or table rock, 12 or 14 feet square, 2 feet
l elevated about four feet from the bottom of
n: the roof, over head, covered with stalactites,
which reach to the table rock. On your left
a arched way of 150 feet; and on your right
nother arched way, 6 feet broad at the bottom,
t high, which leads into a large room. Passing
ch about 20 feet, you arrive at another, which
a hall 10 feet wide and 100 feet long, from 5 to
h, supported with pillars and arches, and the
lered with curtains plaited in variegated forms,
as snow. Near the middle of this hall, is an
ay, through which you pass into a large room;
e the hall is bordered with curtains, and hung
stalactites; returning into the hall you pass
nother arch into a number of rooms on the left
tained, and with stalactites hanging from the
u then descend about 16 feet into a chamber
feet square, and 6 feet high, curtained in like
nd hung over with stalactites.
mber and spaciousness of the rooms, curtained
d with large plaits, extending along the walls
to three feet from the roof, of the most perfect
, resembling the most beautiful tapestry, with
rooms are embroidered; and the large drops
which are constantly suspended on the points
erable stalactites, which hang from the roof
nd the columns of spar resting on pedestals,
some places appear to be formed to support the
ove—the reflection of the lights, and the great
d variety of the scenery of this amazing cavern,

form, altogether, one of the most pleasing and interesting scenes that was ever beheld by the eye of mortal man.

Its discovery immediately drew to it great numbers of people from the village and surrounding country, who were making great depredations upon it, by breaking off and carrying away whatever they esteemed most curious; When Samuel C. Kennedy, Esq. Mr. Le Ray's agent, was applied to, to prevent further spoliation ; he immediately directed the passage into the cavern to be enlarged, stairways made, with a strong door placed under a lock and key, which has been finished, and the door closed.

The discovery of this grotto, added to the extended petrefaction along the river in this vicinity, especially on Cowan's Island, of the once inhabitants of the deep, cannot fail to render Watertown, (to the curious at least) a lasting place of resort.

CAVE OF GUACHARO.

THE CARACCAS.

(From Humboldt's Travels.)

DURING their residence at Caripe, Baron Humboldt and his party, were conducted by several of the monks and by a party of Indians, to visit a celebrated cavern, called *the Cave of Guacharo*, situated about three leagues south-west from the convent. It was on the side of a limestone mountain. Its entrance formed a vault eighty feet broad, and seventy-two feet high ; and the rock that surmounted it was covered with trees of gigantic height. The greatest luxuriancy of vegetation embellished not only the exterior of the cavern, but the inside of its entrance. A torrent ran along the bottom.

The party entered, and measured their way by a cord. After they had proceeded about one hundred yards, it was necessary to light the torches they had brought with them. At the place where the light began to fail, Baron de Humboldt heard from afar the hoarse sounds of nocturnal birds. One species of these were as large as European fowls; they had white mouths, and

ıd some analogy both to goatsuckers and crows. Their ings were so long as to extend three feet and a half in idth. It is difficult, says this gentleman, to form an ea of the horrible noise occasioned by the screaming, croaking, of thousands of these birds in the dark in- rior parts of the cavern. The noise increased as the avellers advanced, and until the birds were alarmed at e light of the torches. It then ceased for a little while, ıd they heard, at a distance, the plaintive cries of birds ıat were at roost in other more distant recesses of the ıvern.

Baron de Humboldt says, that it is customary with ıe Indians of the adjacent country, every year about idsummer, to enter this cavern armed with poles; and ıat on these occasions they kill many thousands of birds, ıd take from the inside of each a great quantity of fat. his is a substance half liquid, transparent, without nell, and so pure, that it may be kept more than a ar without becoming rancid. At the convent of Caripe) other oil was used in the kitchen of the monks than ıat obtained from the Guacharo birds. M. Bonpland cceeded in killing one of them: and, on examination, und it to be a species of the feathered tribe which had ;fore been unknown.

The travellers followed the course of the torrent, ıich appeared to be about thirty feet wide; and, after while, came to a part of the cave beyond which the ıdians objected to proceed, as they believed that the terior recesses of the cavern were inhabited by the uls of their ancestors. With some difficulty, however, ey were induced to go on. They soon afterwards ar- ved at a spot where the bottom of the cavern was con- derably elevated, and where the river formed a small scade. With some difficulty they climbed along the le of the water. From this place the grotto was per- ptibly contracted in its dimensions. They now walked, rough thick mud, to a spot where they beheld with tonishment the progress of subterraneous vegetation. ıe seeds which the guacharoes had carried into the otto to feed their young ones, had sprung up in great undance; and a singular kind of crop, with blanched ılks and half formed leaves had risen, in the midst of

the darkness, to the height of two feet and upwards. The Indians examined them in silent horror. It might have been thought that these subterraneous vegetables, pale and disfigured, appeared to them phantoms banished from the face of the earth. The missionaries, with all their authority, could not prevail with them to penetrate further into the cavern; and the travellers, compelled to yield to the pusillanimity of their guides, had now no alternative but to trace back their steps.

When they reached the entrance, they found that the missionaries had prepared a comfortable repast to refresh them after the fatigues they had undergone. Baron de Humboldt made many inquiries respecting this extraordinary cavern; and particularly whether any fossil, or mineralized remains of animals, had been found in it; but he could not obtain any satisfactory information whatever concerning it.

ROCKS.

SINGING VALLEY.

UNITED STATES.

(New York Paper.)

POTTSTOWN, (Penn.) Sept. 4th, 1822.—A few days since a party of gentlemen from this village rode to the celebrated Klingleberg. Klingleberg is a German name, and the proper definition is, a sounding hill or chiming rocks, or singing valley, about three miles from this place. Although our expectations were very highly raised by the reports which we had heard, still they were more than realized on our arrival there. A large and irregular mass of ill-shaped stones presented themselves to our view at first. They appear to have been thrown together by some terrible convulsion of nature. From the appearance of the stone, probably at some former time, a volcanic eruption must have taken place here. By striking on the stones, the most varied sounds imaginable are produced. The chime of the finest bells in the world could not exceed in variety the sounds produced here, from the most sonorous bass

to the most delicate treble—the gradations beautifully fine. Near the Klingleberg there is a considerable cave, which extends some distance under the rock, and is really worthy the attention of the curious. Many visitors heretofore have been at this place, but of late I understand it has been almost deserted. When the inhabitants of our country are much troubled to kill time, I am of opinion that there is not a place in the country that would better compensate a traveller than a visit to this celebrated singing valley.

DORIC ROCK.

ON THE LAKE SUPERIOR.

(From Schoolcraft's Travels.)

ON going three leagues, we reached the commencement of the Pictured Rocks, a series of lofty bluffs, which continue for twelve miles along the shore, and present some of the most sublime and commanding views in nature. We had been told, by our Canadian guide, of the variety in the colour and form of these rocks, but were wholly unprepared to encounter the surprising groups of overhanging precipices, towering walls, caverns, water falls, and prostrate ruins, which are here mingled in the most wonderful disorder, and burst upon the view in every varying and pleasing succession. All these front upon the lake, in a line of aspiring promontories, which, at a distance, present the terrible array of dilapidated battlements and desolate towers.

> "Their rocky summits split and rent,
> "Form'd turret, dome, or battlement,
> "Or seemed fantastically set
> "With cupola or minaret,
> "Wild crests as pagod ever decked,
> "Or mosque of eastern architect."

In some places the waves have lashed down the lower strata, while the upper ones hang in a threatening posture over the lake; in others, extensive caverns have been worn into the rock, and in this way rocky bluffs, nearly severed from the main, or left standing upon rude and massy pillars, between which barges and canoes might with safety sail. All that we have read of the

natural physiognomy of the Hebrides, of Staffa, the Dorcholm, and the romantic Isles of the Sicilian coast, is forcibly recalled on viewing this scene; and it may be doubted whether, in the whole range of American scenery, there is to be found such an interesting assemblage of grand, picturesque, and pleasing objects. Among many striking features, two attracted particular admiration,—the Cascade la Portaille and the Doric Arch.

The Doric Rock is a mass of sand-stone, consisting of four natural pillars, supporting a stratum or entablature of the same material, and presenting the appearance of a work of art. On the top of this entablature rests a stratum of alluvial soil, covered with a handsome growth of pine and spruce trees, some of which appear to be fifty or sixty feet in height. To add to the factitious appearance of the scene, that part of the entablature included between the pillars is excavated in the form of a common arch, giving it very much the appearance of a vaulted passage into the court-yard of some massy pile of antiquated buildings.

MOUNT PLEASANT ROCK.

UNITED STATES.

(Blowe's America.)

THE face of the country about Lancaster presents a peculiar aspect. The land seems generally level; but abrupt, precipitous, and coni-form piles of rocks, producing very little timber or herbage, are occasionally interspersed in a promiscuous manner, in every direction. They are of divers altitudes and magnitudes. Some people might perhaps conjecture them to have been works of art, did not their numbers and magnitude preclude the idea. One of these, called Mount Pleasant, about one mile northerly from Lancaster, is very remarkable. It is situated near a large prairie, and encompassed by a wide plain. The south-west front of this huge pile of rocks is about 500 feet in perpendicular height: the base is about a mile and a half in circumference, while the top is about thirty by 100 yards across it.

ROCK BRIDGE.

THE SAME.

(Universal Science.)

THIS bridge is described by Mr. Jefferson in his State of Virginia. It commences at the ascent of a hill, which seems to have been cloven asunder by some convulsion of nature, the fissure at the bridge is by some measurements said to be 270 feet, by others only 205; width at bottom forty-five feet, at top ninety, which gives the length of the bridge; the thickness at the summit of the arch is forty feet; a considerable part is of earth, upon which grow many large trees, the residue is of the same materials with the hill on both sides, which is a solid lime-stone rock, and forms the arch, which is of a semi-elliptical form, very flat.

The height of this arch above the water (the whole being 205, and forty the thickness) is 165 feet, the breadth at the middle is about sixty feet. It has no ledges, but what is formed on some parts by the rock, but even at these few can stand upon their feet to look down, but go on hands and feet to peep over. On the contrary, the view from below is most delightful, and enchanting. The fissure continuing narrow and straight, both above and below, and of such height that it exhibits a prospect for about five miles; gives a short but very pleasing view of Blue Ridge on the one side, and North Mountain on the other; the stream that passes below it, is called Cedar Creek, and falls into James's river. The bridge is in the county of Rockbridge, to which it has given the name. We have no account of the time when it was produced. It has, however, formed a passage between two mountains otherwise impassable.

NATURAL BRIDGE AND CAVE.

THE SAME.

(Blowe's America)

IN Adams township, Berkshire, is a great natural curiosity. A pretty mill stream, called Hudson's-brook,

which rises in Vermont, and falls into Hoosuck river, has, for about eighty yards, formed a channel sixty feet deep through a quarry of white marble. Over this channel some of the rocks remain, forming a natural bridge, from the top of which to the water is sixty-two feet; its length is about fourteen, and its breadth ten feet. Partly under this bridge, and about ten feet below it, is another, which is wider, but not so long; for at the east end they form one body of rock, about twelve feet thick, and under this the water flows. It is evident, from the appearance of the rocks, that the water has formerly flowed forty feet at least above its present bed. A little above the bridge is a cave, which has a convenient entrance at the north, and a passage out at the east; from the west side of this cave a chasm extends into the hill, but it soon becomes too narrow to pass.

NATURAL BRIDGES OF ICOGNOZO.

NEW GRENADA.

Jamieson's Voyages.

THE bridges of Icognozo are situated west of the Summa Paz, in the direction of a small river which rises in the mountain of that name. This torrent rolls through a deep and narrow valley called Pandi, which would be totally inaccessible except for the arches thrown across it by the wild and fantastic hand of nature. With astonishment travellers gaze on these wonderful bridges. The mountain in which is the crevice of Icognozo, appears to have been rent by some sudden convulsion of nature. About 500 feet above the torrent appears the upper bridge: its breadth is about forty feet, and its length is upwards of fifty, composed of solid rock in the form of an arch, seven or eight feet thick at the centre. Sixty feet below this a second bridge is seen, more singularly formed than the former. It is composed of three enormous masses of rock, as if fallen from the superior part of the mountain, the upper mass forming the key of the other two.

RIVER ST. LAWRENCE.

CANADA.

(Edinburgh Gazetteer.)

erent parts of its course, this great river is known fferent names. As far up from the sea as Mon- is called St. Lawrence; from Montreal to Kings- pper Canada, it is called the Cataraqui, or Iro- etween Lake Ontario and Lake Erie it is called river; between Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, roit; between Lake St. Clair and Lake Huron, r St. Clair; and between Lake Huron and Lake r, the distance is called the Narrows, or the Falls lary, forming thus an uninterrupted connection miles. It receives nearly all the rivers that have rces in the extensive range of mountains to the rds, called the Land's Height, that separates rs falling into Hudson's bay still further to the rom those that descend into the Atlantic; and that rise in the ridge which commences on its bank, and runs nearly south-westerly, until upon Lake Champlain. Its course from Lake to the gulf of St. Lawrence is 770 miles, and it nerally through a fertile and cultivated country, rapidly improving. The flourishing towns of l and Quebec are also situated on its banks, be- hers of inferior note. From Lake Ontario to l, the distance is 190 miles; and the interven- try, though it was first settled only in 1783, ibits all the embelishments of improved cultiva- In this part of the river there are numerous shoals, and rapids, which call forth all the ad- d enterprise of the boatmen, who, from the be- of spring to the end of autumn, are continually up and down with loaded batteaux and rafts. It out also into large lakes, namely, the St. Francis, Louis, and Deux Montagnes. To Montreal, 580 miles from the gulf of St. Lawrence, ships ns can ascend with little difficulty. From this

place to Quebec, a distance of 180 miles, the impediments to vessels of large tonnage are not many, and may be easily overcome. On either side of the river the prospect is delightful; numerous villages, for the most part built round a handsome stone church, invite the traveller's attention; while single houses and farms appear at agreeable distances, to keep up a regular chain of communication. About 90 miles below Montreal, the influence of the tide ceases entirely, and indeed is not felt for several miles below it; and the St. Lawrence preserves generally an uniform appearance, until arriving at the Richelieu rapid, a distance of 52 miles, where its bed is so much contracted by huge masses of rock, as to leave but a very narrow channel, and so rapid a current, that it is necessary to use extreme caution in passing it. The banks of the river are of moderate height, but gradually increase on approaching Quebec, until they attain the height of Cape Diamond, on which the city is built, and which is 345 feet above the level of the water. At Quebec the river is 2 miles across, and continues gradually increasing in breadth, until it enters the gulf of St. Lawrence, where, from Cape Rosier to the Mingan settlement on the Labrador shore, it is near 105 miles wide. A little below Quebec is the island of Orleans, placed in the middle of the river, and forming two channels. Beyond this island are several others; and at Riviere du Sud the river is increased to 11 miles in breadth; and the general appearance of the adjoining country is extremely beautiful, being interspersed with churches and villages, whose houses being always whitened, are finely contrasted with the dark and thick woods which cover the rising grounds behind. Beyond the Riviere du Sud, the channel of the river, though it is 13 miles across, is interrupted by shoals and islands, so that at one part the passage is not more than 1700 or 1800 yards across, between the two buoys that mark the edge of the shoals; and the currents are numerous, irregular, and very strong. 130 miles below Quebec, several islands occur to divide the stream of the river; and about 50 or 60 miles farther down, the navigation of the river is clear to the gulf.

RIVER MISSISSIPI.

UNITED STATES.

(*Morse's Gazzetteer.*)

THE River Mississipi, rises in latitude 47 deg. 47 min, N. and longitude 95 deg. 6 min. W. amidst lakes. and swamps dreary and desolate beyond description, and after a S. E. course of 600 miles, reaches the falls of St. Anthony, in lat. 44 deg. N. where it descends perpendicularly 30 feet. From these falls to the junction of the Missouri in lat. 39 deg. 27 min. N. the distance is 1,030 miles, and from the junction of the Missouri to its mouth, in the gulf of Mexico, is 1,395 miles, making the whole length of the river more than 3,000 miles. It is navigable for boats of 40 tons to the falls of St. Anthony. Ships seldom ascend above Natchez. The navigation of the river is attended with danger on account of sawyers, planters, falling banks, and other difficulties. *Sawyers* are large trees, whose roots are fastened to the bottom of the river, while the top just appears at the level of the water. The tree is continually forced downward by the current, which is still not strong enough to tear it out, and suffers it occasionally to recoil, so that a regular vibratory motion is kept up, which is performed once in ten or fifteen minutes; and if a boat be passing over it at the time of recoiling, the destruction of the boat is inevitable. When the top of the tree does not quite reach the surface of the water, it is called a *Sleeping Sawyer*, and this is the most dangerous, for it cannot be seen. *Planters*, are trees in a similar situation, but firmly fixed, having no motion. *Falling Banks* are parts of the bank, so undermined by the current, that pieces of them, frequently more than an acre in extent are falling into the stream. Boats are often destroyed by them.

The current of the Mississipi is very rapid. The passage of ships ascending the river from the Balize to New Orleans takes up from 5 to 30 days, while a light wind will carry them down in 12 hours. From New-Orleans to the mouth of the Illinois, the voyage formerly required 8 to 10 weeks. But the introduction of steam-boats has greatly facilitated the ascent of the river, and the voy-

age is now performed in less than one third of the formerly demanded. The number of steam-boat very rapidly increased within a few years, and is st creasing. The first steam-boat on the western wate built at Pittsburgh, in 1811. In 1819, there we measuring together 7,306 tons. At the same time were 13 new boats on the stocks.

The principal tributaries of the Mississipi fro west, are Red River, Arkansaw, White River, Mi Des Moines, and St. Peter's; and from the east, t zoo, Ohio, Illinois, and Ouisconsin. The banks Mississipi are annually inundated to a considerable particularly on the western bank, and in the lowe of its course. Just below the mouth of Red River, mences what is called the Delta of the Mississipi. river here, instead of receiving the tribute of in streams, divides into numerous branches or bayous, diverging from each other, slowly wind their way sea.

RIVER PLATA.

SOUTH AMERICA.

(*The same*)

THIS river is formed by the union of the Uragu the Parana, near lat. 34 deg. S. It is a very river, being 150 miles from Cape St. Maria, on o to the entrance, to Cape St. Anthony on the It continues of this width as you ascend the s till you come to Montevideo, when it suddenly nishes to 80 miles, and at Buenos Ayres, which i miles from its mouth, it is about 30 miles broad. wide and noble expanse is, notwithstanding its e deformed by rocks and sand-banks, and rendered d ous navigation not only by its shoals and shallow likewise by the impetuous torrents of wind whic at intervals over the vast plains of the Pampas, t S. W. of Buenos Ayres.

RIVER AMAZONS,

THE SAME

(Various Authorities)

THE Amazon, or Maranon, is the largest river in the world. It takes its rise among the Andes, and consists of two branches, which, uniting and receiving, from the North, the Napo, the Parana, Yupuro, and the Great Negro; and from the south, the Cuchivara, or Araza, and the Madera, runs from west to east nearly the whole breadth of South America: its course is estimated at 2300 miles. The breadth, at the Portuguese boundary, is reckoned one league; but it is generally about two miles, and no bottom found at 103 fathoms. The tide runs up 600 miles from the Sea. It is navigable from the town of Jaen, a distance of nearly 2000 miles.*

At the Pongo the stream is suddenly contracted from a breadth of 1600 to 160 feet, and the current runs with proportional rapidity. In those parts of the river a canoe or any other species of boat would inevitably be driven at the mercy of the stream, and would soon be dashed to pieces on the rocks. The greatest danger to which the navigator is exposed, is being carried by eddies out of the current, which he may find it almost impossible to regain. This accident happened to Condamine in the course of his adventurous navigation of this river; and he relates that not a year before, a missionary thus drawn into the vortex was kept in it for two days, destitute of provisions, and might have perished for want, but for a providential swell of the river, which brought him again into the current. Condamine calculated, that in the narrowest part he was carried on his raft at the rate of two toises per second, which is equal to rather more than nine miles an hour. After he had emerged from the jaws of the mountains on this raft, he describes the aspect of the country in the following terms:—"I found myself in a new world, separate from all human in-

* For a Scale of the comparative length of Rivers, see Museum Asianum.

tercourse, on a fresh water sea, surrounded by a maze of lakes, rivers and canals, penetrating in every direction the gloom of an immense forest, which but for them were forbidden to access. New plants, new animals, and new races of men, were exhibited to view. Accustomed during seven years to mountains lost in clouds, I was wrapt in admiration at the wide circle embraced by the eye, restricted here by no other boundary than the horizon, save where the hills of Pongo, soon about to disappear, raised themselves to chequer the constant monotony of the scene. To the crowd of varying objects which diversify the cultured fields of Quito, and which still presented themselves to the imagination, succeeded the most uniform contrast, the whole that was to be seen being verdure and water; for the earth is so thickly covered with rooted plants and bushes, that it is trod, but not perceived; we find a barren space, though but a foot square, requiring the world of toil. Below Borja, and [illegible] second, on falling down the river, a stone, nay a pebble, is an object rare as a diamond. The savages of these countries indeed have no conception of stones, and when, on visiting Borja, they first perceive them, the wonder they occasion is admirable to behold: every gesture tokens surprise; they collect them together, and load themselves with the precious burden, till, beginning to notice their abundance, they finally disregard, and throw them away."

The first European who visited the river Amazons was Francis d'Orrellans, who having met with some armed women or Amazons on its banks, gave it from this circumstance its present appellation. He embarked in 1539, on a river in the vicinity of Quito; and being carried by different subordinate streams into the main current of the Amazons, he arrived at the North Cape, in Guiana, after a navigation of more than 5000 miles. In 1562, Pedro de Ursoa fell into this river from a tributary stream on the southern side; but he perished in the course of his voyage by the hands of some of his followers. In 1743 and 1744 it was navigated by Monsieur de Condamine of the royal academy of sciences at Paris, who being provided with accurate instruments, has published a correct map of its course.

A vague tradition prevailed for a long time among he Spanish missionaries, that this great river and the)rinoco were joined together by some of their subor- inate streams. No clear evidence, however, being)rought forward in favour of this remarkable fact, it ras at last considered to be an error. But this point ias now been determined in the most satisfactory man- ier by the illustrious Humboldt, who, in the course of iis journies into the interior of these regions, penetrated rom the Rio Negro, which is known to be a branch of he Amazons, to the Cassiquiari, and ascending its tream, arrived in the course of his navigation into the nain channel of the Orinoco.

NORTH AMERICAN LAKES.

LAKE SUPERIOR.

(Warden's America.)

THE great lakes, or inland seas, situated towards the northern extremity of the United States, which they 'parate from the British possessions, are five in num- '; namely, Lakes Superior, Huron, Michigan, Erie, d Ontario.

LAKE SUPERIOR, the first and most northern, former- known by the name of Lake Tracy and Lake Conde, situated between 46½° and 49° degrees of north lati- e, and between 84° and 92° 10' west longitude from enwich. Its greatest length from east to west, is miles; its greatest breadth from north to south 120 s; its circumference following its shores and bays ccording to Mackenzie, 1200 miles; and by the lation of Faden, 1525. Along the northern shore is a great depth of water. This lake is the est body of fresh water on the face of the globe. ceives the waters of forty different streams, (the pal of which are the St. Louis, Nipigon, Pic, and picoton,) which it discharges into Lake Huron by raits of St. Mary; but the quantity which escapes poration is so great, that no more than a tenth s is conjectured) passes through this channel.

The following phenomenon is not uncommon. When the wind blows from the east, the waters are driven against the high rocks of the northern and western shore, where they form a thick vapour resembling rain; and this action of the wind creates an irregular ebb and flow which never exceeds ten or twelve inches; but the strong traces of the water on the rocks of the shore shew that at no very remote period they were elevated six feet above the present level. Some few years since, the waters suddenly withdrew near the great portage, then rushed back with velocity, and, after rising and falling during several hours, they settled at their usual level.

LAKE ERIE.

(*Howison's Sketches.*)

LAKE Erie is two hundred and forty-six miles long, and sixty broad, at its widest part. The depth averages from fifteen to eighteen fathoms over its whole extent, and, in consequence of this remarkable shallowness, it becomes rough and boisterous when the wind blows strongly from any point of the compass. At these times a very high and dangerous surf breaks upon its shores, which, in many places, resemble the beach of the sea, being strewed with dead fish and shells, and infested with aquatic birds of various kinds. Often during storms the lake is covered with such a thick mist, that it is impossible to see the distance of ten yards from the shore. The waves then roll with terrific violence from amidst the cloudy obscurity, and suggest to the imagination the appalling dangers which threaten those vessels that are exposed to the tempest; for the navigation of the lake is rendered highly dangerous, by reefs and projecting points of land, and by the nature of the banks, which, towards its western extremity, are so bold and precipitous, that, when a vessel is driven upon them, shipwreck becomes almost inevitable. Scarcely a summer passes in which there is not some shipping lost in Lake Erie. South-west winds prevail much during a great part of the year, and often, for weeks together prevent vessels from sailing westward; hence steam-

boats are the craft best suited for the navigation of this inland sea.

When tempests happen upon Lake Erie, its waters sometimes suddenly rise to the foot of these perpendicular sand banks, and beat against them with such dreadful vehemence as entirely to cover the beach. Persons travelling upon it during storms have sometimes perished in the waves, being unable to escape their fury; for the lake often rises with such rapidity, that one has no chance of gaining a place of safety before he is overwhelmed by the flood. At these times the batteux which coast along are so liable to be driven upon a lee-shore and beaten to pieces, that those who are on board often abandon their vessels and cargo, and try to save themselves.

A PERSON who resides upon the shore of Lake Erie related to me a very AFFECTING INCIDENT which occurred there many years ago. An Indian woman, and her child, who was about seven years old, were travelling along the beach to a camp a few miles distant. The boy observed some wild grapes growing upon the top of the bank, and expressed such a strong desire to obtain them, that his mother, seeing a ravine at a little distance, by which she thought she could gain the edge of the precipice, resolved to gratify him. Having desired him to remain where he was, she ascended the steep, and was allured much farther into the woods than she at first intended. In the mean time, the wind began to blow vehemently, but the boy wandered carelessly along the beach, seeking for shells, till the rapid rise of the lake rendered it impossible for him to return to the spot where he had been left by his mother. He immediately began to cry aloud, and she, being on her return, heard him, but instead of descending the ravine, hastened to the edge of the precipice, from the bottom of which the noise seemed to proceed. On looking down she beheld her son struggling with the waves, and vainly endeavouring to climb up the bank which was fifty feet perpendicular height, and very slippery. There being no possibility of rendering him assistance, she was on the point of throwing herself down the steep, when she saw him catch hold of a tree that had fallen in-

to the lake, and mount one of its most projecting branches. He sat astride upon this, almost beyond the reach of the surges, while she continued watching him in an agony of grief, hesitating whether she should endeavour to find her way to the camp, and procure assistance, or remain near her boy. However, evening was now about to close, and as she could not proceed through the woods in the dark, she resolved at least to wait till the moon rose. She sat on the top of the precipice a whole hour, and, during that time, occasionally ascertained that her son was alive, by hearing his cries amidst the roaring of the waves; but when the moon appeared he was not to be seen. She now felt convinced that he was drowned, and, giving way to utter despair, threw herself on the turf. Presently she heard a feeble voice cry, (in Indian,) "Mamma I'm here, come and help me." She started up, and saw her boy scrambling upon the edge of the bank—she sprang forward to catch his hand, but the ground by which he held giving way, he was precipitated into the lake, and perished among the rushing billows.

LAKE ONTARIO.

(THE SAME.)

LAKE ONTARIO is two hundred and thirty miles long, and sixty broad at its widest part. Its waters are quite transparent and colourless, but vapid and unpleasant to the taste. Soundings are rarely to be met with, except near the shore; and as very few islands or points of land present themselves upon its expanse, it is adapted for every kind of navigation, and will, of course admit vessels of the largest size. The current which, moves forward this immense body of water is distinctly perceptible, being, on an average, at the rate of half a mile an hour, but varying with the direction and strength of the wind.

The most remarkable phenomenon which this and the other lakes exhibit, is that increase and rise of their waters, which is said to take place at regular periods. It occurs, in a moderate degree, every seven years, and

to a very great extent once in thirty or forty. In the year 1816, the waters of Lake Ontario were seven feet and a-half perpendicular above their average height, and Lake Erie was affected in a similar way. I have visited the shores of Lake Ontario several times, accompanied by a person who resides upon them, whose intelligence and indisputable veracity made me put full confidence in the information he gave, and from whom I received proofs of the accuracy of what I have stated. I likewise saw the remains of a large storehouse which had been built a few years before, in a situation that seemed quite inaccessible to the lake although the waters have surrounded and nearly demolished it.

This singular phenomenon affords a problem very difficult to solve. The quantity of water that must be required to increase the depth of Lake Ontario, and all the other lakes, seven and a-half feet perpendicular, is so vast, that it is impossible to conceive where its source can lie. The height of the waters of the lakes, indeed, varies a few inches almost daily; but this is occasioned by changes in the direction of the wind. When it is east or north-east, the waters are driven back, or at least impeded in their course, and consequently an accumulation takes place, which makes the lakes rise; but if it blows from the south, or south-west, the direction in which they flow, their waters are hurried towards the St. Lawrence, and, of course, decrease in height in proportion to the strength of the wind.

SOUTH AMERICAN LAKES.

(Pinkerton's Geography.)

NO part of the globe displays so great a number of lakes as North America; and the southern part of the new continent is perhaps equally remarkable by their rarity. Many supposed lakes, as that of Zarayos or Sharayos, in the course of the river Paraguay, only exist during the annual inundations, which are on a far grander scale than those of the Ganges, and may be said to deluge whole provinces. The Lagoon of Maracaybo

is remarkable, being a circular bason about 100 B. miles in diameter, receiving numerous rivers and rivulets, and communicating with the sea by a considerable creek. The Parima also gives source to the great river of the same name, likewise called the Rio Blanco, which joins the river Negro, and great river of Amazons. In this part of South America there is, as it were, a contest betwixt land and water: and so level and mutable is the soil, that the rivers seem dubious what course to pursue, as they flow in every direction, and branches of the Orinoco communicate with the tributary rivers of the immense Maranon.

In Amazonia and Brazil there do not appear to be any lakes of consequence: but the Portuguese are inferior even to the Spaniards in geography and natural history, and many discoveries remain to be made in their ample possessions. The lake of Titicaca, nearly in the same parallel, and in the kingdom of Peru, is regarded as the most important in South America. Ulloa says that it is of an oval figure, the circumference about 240 miles; and the depth 70 or 80 fathoms. It receives ten or twelve rivers and several rivulets; but the water, though not saline, is nauseous, being probably tainted with sulphur or bitumen. It contains two kinds of fish, and is frequented by geese and wild fowl. In an isle of this lake Mango Capac, the founder of the Peruvian monarchy, reported that the sun, his father, had placed him, with his sister and consort, Oello: and here a temple was dedicated to the sun, the most splendid in the kingdom, and profusely decorated with plates of gold and silver. On the Spanish invasion these treasures are said to have been thrown into the lake.

CATARACTS.

LITTLE FALLS.

UNITED STATES.

(*Rev. J. Marsden's* Journal.*)

E Mohawk is full of violent rapids; hence, the bargeen who navigate between Schenecdady and Utica, to pole along most of the way; this is both a te- and laborious process: sometimes the river winds gst steep hills and rocky declivities, where it breaks abrupt violence through the converging granate,

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Previous to Mr. Marsden leaving England on his ion to British North America, he resided and hed in Manchester and its neighbourhood, where as greatly esteemed, and where the Editor had the iness of some acquaintance with him. He left and in August, 1800, and after sustaining many s and privations, returned in safety, November,

ge 10 of his Journal, speaking of the providential of Heaven manifested towards Christian Missions he : "From the year 1770, the period when the first eyan Missionaries sailed, to the present time; not nstance has occurred of one of them being lost at either by shipwreck or storm. It is true some seen death in the hurricane,—death in the lee :—death in the sunkenledge; in the white winged l: and in the thunder of an enemy's guns; but not nstance is recorded of a single person having fallen tim to any of these ministers of mortality. They sailed in all seasons of the year; in all kinds of ls; with all sorts of captains: and under all paral- t latitude; and yet providence has preserved them violent death: they have gone to the east, to the , to the north, and the south, and save in one or ases of natural death; which might as certainly happened on shore; they have generally arrived fety."

and, to use the words of Thomson, it "wheels, and foams, and boils, and thunders through." On the 2nd of June we arrived at the little falls, where we stopped at the house of Mr. Morale, to whom we had letters. In the morning Mr. Bakewell and myself walked round the place, which contains some of the wildest and most romantic scenery that nature ever drew. The Mohawk, after winding through a fine plain of twenty or thirty miles extent above the falls, is all at once stopped by a vast ridge of rocks, probably 300 feet above the level of the river below, through which, with violent force, he breaks his way, foaming, dashing, and roaring, from one descent to another, until, finally having gained the bottom, he glides through an immense chasm, seemingly cut out of the solid rock by art; we sat down upon a rock, and I wrote with my pencil the following lines:

Nature with giant pencil here has drawn,
Not the soft landscape, nor enamel'd lawn;
But ridges, crags, and rocks, in daring style,
At whose wild base the hurrying waters boil:
Down from his lake, fed source, the Mohawk pours,
And through the riven gap escapes and roars.

I preached at the Little Falls (for this is the name of the village through which the canal runs, that interlocks with the upper part of the Mohawk) and had the pleasure of dispensing the mysteries of the gospel in the Free Mason's Lodge from the Grand Master's chair. From hence we rode to Herkemer, a lovely little town, situated upon the German Flats, a large tract of level land, which it is more than probable was once an immense lake, till the disrupture of the ridge at the little falls, afforded a vent for the waters of the Mohawk: here, at the request of Mr. Whittlesey, the Presbyterian minister, I preached in the court-house, a more commodious place than the church; we had most of the inhabitants of the village present. The following morning we rode to Utica, the emporium for the interior of the state of New York; this is just 100 miles from Albany, and 260 from the sea; it is built upon the scite of Old Fort Schaylee. The houses are in the first style of elegance; and the town contains about three thousand inhabitants, who are remarkably dressy, courteous, and polite: I preached here on the Saturday evening, and on

the Sabbath morning in the market place, to a part of General Brown's army; who were, by the orders of the commanding officer, marched to the spot, when I applied, "Prepare to meet thy God;"—solemn words to men marching to the field of battle; many of them felt their force; the tears trickled down their cheeks; perhaps it was the last time divine providence warned them. They were then marching to Niagara to engage General Drummond, where hundreds on both sides fell in a very sanguinary and hard contested conflict. O how cruel is war, that brings, into desperate contact, men of the same origin, the same language, and the same religion! What a dreadful account will the rulers of this world have to give to the great judge of quick and dead!

I preached in the market place, at six in the morning. In the afternoon, I attended the service in the Episcopal church, a neat and beautiful edifice; and in the evening, by permission of Mr. Baldwin, the minister, preached in the same pulpit to a large congregation. Many people pressed me to stay in the place, and several gentlemen were both liberal and urgent, but my desires had taken their flight to another climate."

GENNESSEE FALLS.

(*The Same.*)

FROM Canandarqua Mr. Marsden visited the Sulphur Springs; this is a powerful stream that rolls up from a bed of rocks, so thoroughly saturated with sulphur, that large quantities are deposited in all directions; this place, though dreary in the extreme, is visited by numbers, and the springs are beneficial in most cutaneous disorders. "As our object, continuies Mr. M. of visiting Niagara was defeated, we set off to visit Lake Ontario and the Gennessee Falls from Bloomfield. We rode to the Genessee river, descending its windings until we came to the village above the cataract; just as we entered this village we passed a number of boys, one of whom had just given a deadly wound to a large rattlesnake; the animal was writhing in the agonies of death; I gave the boy a shilling for his skin, which he readily stripped off, together with his rattles, and two fangs:

the monster was nearly six feet long, and full as thick as my arm; they are rather numerous about this part of the country, but not much feared, as providence has provided an antidote for their bite; this is called Rattlesnake Root; the Indians first discovered its efficacy, and to them the white people owe this invaluable antidote, which they chew, swallowing the spittle, and applying some at the same time to the wound.

Having put up our horses, we walked through the woods to the first cataract, not without some suspicions of coming unawares across some of the reptiles above mentioned, as the thick underwood is much infested with them. We could now and then obtain a glimpse of the river above the falls, gliding like an arrow, while the thundering sound stunned us considerably as we approached the spot. The roaring and foaming of the rapids before the river arrives at the precipice; the green tint of the water, edged all the way down by curling folds of snow-white foam; the immediate chasm of boiling snow into which the river pours; the deep dense mist that hovers over the gulf below, through which you see at intervals the turbulence of the bottom; the immense interminable mass of wood which fills the whole of the surrounding country, and borders to the very edge every part of the river, which boils along as if in haste to escape the horrible chasm in which it had been engulfed; formed altogether a scene of grandeur and beauty which can hardly be rivalled: the river is about 480 yards across, and the upper falls or principal cataract is 96 feet perpendicular; below these the river is again precipitated over another precipice of 57 feet, so that adding about 30 feet for the three miles of rapids, and the height of both falls will be about the same as at Niagara. After the falls of Niagara, these are decidedly the grandest and most beautiful in the world. The excavated amphitheatre allows the eye to take in a circumference of nearly half a mile, though the falls themselves are not more than the breadth I have assigned the river; but the variegated colour of the strata, now contrasted, now softened into each other, intermixed with the green foliage of the cedar above and below, and interspersed here and there in the midst of the rock,

afford a contrast of objects and of tints beautiful beyond expression. The eye takes in this delightful scene at the same time with the immense cascade that terminates the view,—a view so intermingling the beautiful with the sublime, that I considered it well worth the labour and pains of a ride of 400 miles, even though I had not dispensed the precious gospel along many parts of the journey. My companion and I found it difficult to speak to each other, for I was literally stunned with the noise, and now I first understood the grandeur and force of that expression, Rev. i. 15,—"And his voice as the sound of many waters." As this immense sheet of water curves in its descent, I was curious to know whether it might not be possible to get between the river and the rock, and was told that some daring men had really walked within the vast sheet of waters, though the fact seemed incredible, both on account of the tremendous noise and the uncommon rarefaction of the atmosphere that must prevail within the torrent.

FALLS OF NIAGARA.

(*Simond, Howison, and Weld.*)

M. SIMOND, in his Journal of a years residence in Britain, referring to the celebrated Falls of Niagara, observes:—"Looking at the fall, you may say, for instance, that if a first-rate ship of war were brought to the foot of it, its main-mast would not reach the summit, (160 feet); that there would be room for the same ship behind the fall, behind the liquid vault which springs 40 or 50 feet beyond the edge of the rock. Next, it is necessary to bring to your assistance the recollection of some well-known river, to form an idea of the bulk of water before you. The Thames, for instance, at London bridge, which is 300 yards in breadth, or the Seine at Paris, 120 yards; while the Niagara river is full 900 yards, including the island which divides it in two unequal portions. With these facts in your mind, you come at last to admire, and be astonished; but it is an effort of reason. What you see is merely a great mill-dam; but what you measure and compare is one of the wonders of the world.

The approach to Niagara is more striking than the fall itself. Coming to it from behind, you may descend the river 17 miles from Lake Erie to Chippaway; further, you would be carried down to inevitable destruction. You then travel along a level bank on the British side, at first very little above the water, deepening more and more as you advance, by the sinking of the bed of the river. The broad expanse of water slides along an inclined plane with a rapidity constantly accelerated;—its bed is encumbered with rocks, against which the dark waves dash with inconceivable fury;—they elevate their round masses, then whirl in frightful hollow curves, and, from amidst the spreading foam, send up in the air sudden jets of white vapour like smoke. Distinct bodies of water seem to dispute the passage with each other,—they overleap, they delve under each other with the rapidity of lightening. About two miles below the landing, you perceive, at a distance, the vast plain of tumultuous waters ending abruptly, and, in its stead, a column of vapour rising slowly up into the atmosphere. Amidst the general hollow noise of the cataract, unequal blows are distinguishable, like subterraneous explosions.—The scene becomes every step more terrific.—You see clearly that the whole stream is swallowed up; it rounds smoothly over the brink of the abyss without struggle, and disappears. Trunks of trees mark sometimes the extreme rapidity of the current;—they are observed shooting beyond the edge of the sinking river. Descending the bank 80 or 100 feet, you reach the Table-rock,—an horizontal stratum, level with the top of the cataract. There you may touch its very edge,—dip your hand in it,—and, with a plumb-line, measure the height; but the charm is in a great degree dissipated; and, however great and magnificent the object you see, its effect does not appear equal to what it ought to be, and what you *know* the reality is."

Mr Howison remarks, "there have been several instances of people being carried over the Falls, but I believe none of the bodies ever were found. The rapidity of the river, before it tumbles down the precipice is so great that a human body would certainly be whirled

along without sinking; therefore some of those individuals to whom I allude, probably retained their senses till they reached the edge of the cataract, and even looked down upon the gulf into which they were the next moment precipitated."

Mr. Weld records the hapless fate of a poor Indian, the truth of which, he believes to be unquestionable. "The unfortunate hero of this tale, intoxicated it seems, with spirits, had laid himself down to sleep in the bottom of his canoe, which was fastened to the beach at the distance of some miles above the falls. His squaw sat on the shore to watch him. Whilst they were in this situation, a sailor from one of the ships of war on the neighbouring lakes happened to pass by; he was struck with the charms of the squaw, and instantly determined upon enjoying them. The faithful creature, however, unwilling to gratify his desires, hastened to the canoe to arouse her husband; but before she could effect her purpose, the sailor cut the cord by which the canoe was fastened, and set it adrift. It quickly floated away with the stream from the fatal spot, and ere many minutes elapsed, was carried down into the midst of the rapids. Here it was distinctly seen by several persons that were standing on the adjacent shore, whose attention had been caught by the singularity of the appearance of a canoe in such a part of the river. The violent motion of the waves soon awoke the Indian; he started up, looked wildly around, and perceiving his danger, instantly seized his paddle, and made the most surprising exertions to save himself; but finding in a little time that all his efforts would be of no avail in stemming the impetuosity of the current, he with great composure put aside his paddle, wrapped himself up in his blanket, and again laid himself down in the bottom of the canoe. In a few seconds he was hurried down the precipice; but neither he nor his canoe were ever seen more.

CATARACTS OF TEQUENDAMA.

SOUTH AMERICA.

(Jamieson's Voyages)

THE cataract of Tequendama, by which the river Funza joins the Magdelena.* A short distance above the fall, the Funza or Bagota is about 140 feet in breadth: as however it approaches the crevice through which it dashes, it becomes rapidly narrower, till at length it is only thirty-five feet wide. The narrowness of the channel of course encreases its force, and with two bounds down a perpendicular rock 600 feet high, it thunders to the bottom, where it is lost in an unfathomable gulf. It was not only the fall which delighted our travellers, but the variety of climate which the country close to it presented. The face of the rock which terminates the plain of Bagota is so steep near the cataract, that it requires three hours to descend it. At the top are crops of wheat, clumps of oaks, elms and other productions of the temperate zone. As they descended the plants partook, they observed, more of the nature of those found in the torrid zone, and at the bottom groves of palm presented their broad foliage.

The Funza upon issuing from the gulf, assumes a new name, and is then called Rio Meta. Our travellers attempted to get near this dark body of waters, but found it impracticable to approach nearer than 4 or 500 feet: from the dense vapour it emitted, the rapidity and deafening roar of the water, which is such as totally to bewilder the senses of the traveller. There is a curious tradition attached to this water-fall, which is worthy of notice. Many years ago, when the inhabitants were savages, a white man, called Bochica, is said to have appeared among them accompanied by his wife Chia. He was most benevolent in his disposition; but Chia, who was very beautiful, and very mischievous,

. . . . . .

* The Magdelena is a magnificent river, which runs through the province of Santa Fe and New Granada, emptying itself into the lake of Maracaybo.

The present plain of Bagota she caused to be overflown by the power of her magic, and a few inhabitants only escaped this great inundation by fleeing to the mountains. Bochica never forgave his wife for this exertion of her power; he drove her from the earth, and she became the moon, and was afterwards worshipped as such. Bochica had no sooner expelled his wife, than he resolved on counteracting the mischief she had done, for with one blow of his arm he struck the mountain which borders the plain and split it, so that the waters concentrating to this point as a place of egress, the plain was drained and became more fertile than ever. The ancient Bagotians, the aboriginal inhabitants of this plain, when discovered by Gonzales Ximenes de Querada about the year 1536, worshipped the sun and moon and Bochica. They also like the Mexicans offered human sacrifices to their gods.

SPRINGS.

BURNING SPRING IN CANADA.

(Hall's Travels.)

FROM Camandaigua we turned (says Lieut. Hall) nine miles from the main road, to visit what is called "the burning spring," lately discovered. Entering a small but thick wood of pine and maple, enclosed within a narrow ravine, the deep sides of which, composed of dark clay slate, rise to the height of about forty feet; down this glen, about 60 yards wide, trickles a scanty streamlet, wandering from side to side, as scattered rocks or fallen trees afford, or deny its passage. Having advanced on its course about fifty yards, when close under the rocks of the right bank, the party perceived a bright red flame burning briskly on its water. Pieces of lighted wood being applied to different adjacent spots, a space of several yards was immediately in a blaze. Being informed by the guide, that a repetition of this phenomenon might be seen higher up the glen, they scrambled on for about 100 yards, and directed, in some

degree, by a strong smell of sulphur, applied the match to several places, with the same effect. The rocky banks at length approached so closely as to leave little more than a course to the stream, whose stony channel formed the path. About seventy yards further, they found that the glen terminated in a perpendicular rock, about thirty feet high, overgrown with moss, and encumbered with fallen pine-trees, through which the drops scarcely trickled. These fires continue burning unceasingly, unless extinguished by accident. The phenomenon was first observed by the casual rolling of some lighted embers from the top of the bank, whilst it was cleansing for cultivation. In the intensity and duration of the flame, it probably exceeds any thing yet discovered: no traces, however, could be found of a spring in its whole course: the water on which the first fire was burning, had indeed a stagnant appearance; and, probably, was so from the failure of the current; but it had no peculiar taste or smell, was of the ordinary temperature, and but a few inches deep; some bubbles indicated the passage of the inflammable air through it; and on applying a match to the adjacent parts of the dry rock, a momentary flame played along it also.

MINERAL SPRINGS.

UNITED STATES.

(Jamieson's Voyages.)

IN the county of Augusta in Virginia, near the sources of *James' River*, are two springs distinguished by the appellation of *warm* and *hot*, they are eight miles distant from each other, and are strongly impregnated with sulphur. They are said to be useful for rheumatic, and some other complaints. The warm spring issues with a very bold stream sufficient to work a grist mill, and to keep the waters of its bason, which is thirty feet in diameter, at blood heat, or 96° of Fahrenheit. The hot spring is much smaller, and has been so hot as to boil an egg. Some believe its degree of heat to be lessened. It raises the mercury of Fahrenheit's thermometer to 112°; it sometimes relieves where the warm spring fails. A

fountain of common water issuing near its margin, gives it a singular appearance. What are called the sweet springs are in the county of Botetourt in the same state, at the eastern part of the Aleghany, forty-two miles from the warm spring. They are quite cold, like common water, and their nature is little known; but all the three sorts of springs are much frequented. On the Potowmac, and on York River, are also some springs, supposed to be medicinal; but in favour of whose virtues little is known. In the state of Georgia, in the county of Wilkes, about a mile and a half from the town of Washington, a spring rises from a hollow tree, four or five feet in length. The inside of the tree is encrusted with a coat of nitre an inch thick, and the leaves round the spring are encrusted with a substance as white as snow, which has not been analyzed.

In the low grounds of the river called Great Kanhaway, sixty-seven miles above the mouth, is a hole in the earth, of the capacity of thirty or forty gallons, from which issues constantly a bituminous vapour, in so strong a current as to give to the sand about its orifice the motion which it has in a boiling spring. On presenting a lighted candle or torch within eighteen inches from the hole, it flames up in a column of eighteen inches diameter, and four or five feet in height, which sometimes burns out within twenty minutes, and at other times has been known to continue three days, and then has been left still burning. The flame is unsteady, of the density of that of burning spirits, and smells like burning pit coal: water sometimes collects in the bason, which is remarkably cold, and is kept in ebullition by the vapour issuing through it. If the vapour be fired in that state, the water soon becomes so warm that the hand cannot bear it, and evaporates wholly in a short time.

FOSSIL REMAINS

AND INDICATIONS OF A FORMER WORLD.

BONES OF THE MAMMOTH OR MASTODON.

(By the Editor, from Various Sources.)

THE first traces of this extraordinary animal are said to be collected from a letter of Dr. Mather, of Boston, to Dr. Woodward, in 1712, and transcribed from a Work in manuscript, entitled *Biblia Americana*. In this work teeth and bones of prodigious size, supposed to be human, are described as being found at Albany, in New England.

North America seems to be the quarter where the remains of the Mammoth or Mastodon most abound. On the Ohio, and in many parts farther north, tusks, grinders, and skeletons of unparalleled magnitude, which can admit of no comparison with any animal at present known, are found in vast numbers, some lying on the surface of the earth, and some a little below it. "A Mr. Stanley, taken prisoner by the Indians near the mouth of the Tenissee, relates," as Mr. Jefferson informs us, "that after being transferred through several tribes, from one to another, he was at length carried over the mountains west of the Missouri to a river which runs westwardly; that these bones abounded there; and that the natives described to him the animal to which they belonged as still existing in the northern parts of their country; from which description he judged it to be an elephant. Bones of the same kind have been lately found some feet below the surface of the earth, in salines opened on the North Holston, a branch of the Tenissee, about the latitude of 36½° N. Instances are mentioned of like animal remains found in the more southern climates of both hemispheres: but Mr. Jefferson observes, "they are either so loosely mentioned, as to leave a doubt of the fact; so inaccurately described, as not to authorize the classing them with the great northern bones; or so rare, as to found a suspicion that they have been carried thither as curiosities from more northern

is. So that, on the whole, there seems to be no
n vestiges of the existence of this animal farther
than the salines last mentioned. It is remarkable
nues he) that the tusks and skeletons have been
ed by the naturalists of Europe to the elephant,
the grinders have been given to the hippopotamus
er-horse. Yet it is acknowledged, that the tusks
eletons are much larger than those of the elephant,
ie grinders many times greater than those of the
potamus, and essentially different in form. Wher-
these grinders are found, there also we find the
and skeleton; but no skeleton of the hippopota-
or grinders of the elephant. It will not be said
he hippopotamus and elephant came always to the
spot, the former to deposit his grinders, and the
his tusks and skeleton. For what became of the
not deposited there? We must agree, then, that
remains belong to each other; that they are of one
e same animal; that this was not an hippopotamus,
se the hippopotamus had no tusks nor such a frame,
ecause the grinders differ in their size as well as in
mber and form of their points. That it was not
phant, I think ascertained by proofs equally de-
. I will not avail myself of the authority of the
ated anatomist (Dr. Hunter), who, from an exa-
ion of the form and structure of the tusks, has de-
they were essentially different from those of the
ant; because another anatomist (D' Aubenton),
y celebrated, has declared, on a like examination,
hey are precisely the same. Between two such
rities I will suppose this circumstance equivocal.
1. The skeleton of the Mammoth (for so the *in-*
um has been called) bespeaks an animal of five or
mes the cubic volume of the elephant, as M. de
n has admitted. 2. The grinders are five times as
are square, and the grinding surface studded with
r five rows of blunt points: whereas those of the
nt are broad and thin, and their grinding surface
3. I have never heard an instance, and suppose
has been none, of the grinder of an elephant being
in America. 4. From the known temperature
onstitution of the elephant, he could never have

existed in those regions where the remains of the Mammoth have been found. The elephant is a native only of the torrid zone and its vicinities: if, with the assistance of warm apartments and warm clothing, he has been preserved in life in the temperate climates of Europe, it has only been for a small portion of what would have been his natural period, and no instance of his multiplication in them has ever been known. But no bones of the Mammoth, as I have before observed, have been ever found further south than the salines of the Holston, and they have been found as far north as the arctic circle. For my own part, I find no difficulty in believing that an animal may have existed, resembling the elephant in his tusks and general anatomy, while his nature was in other respects extremely different. From the 30th degree of south latitude to the 30th of north, are nearly the limits which nature has fixed for the existence and multiplication of the elephant known to us. Proceeding thence northwardly to 30½ degrees, we enter those assigned to the Mammoth. The further we advance north, the more their vestiges multiply as far as the earth has been explored in that direction; and it is as probable as otherwise, that this progression continues to the pole itself, if land extends so far. The centre of the frozen zone then may be the scene of their vigour, as that of the torrid is of the elephant. Thus nature seems to have drawn a belt of separation between these two tremendous animals, whose breadth indeed is not precisely known, though at present we may suppose it about 6½ degrees of latitude; to have assigned to the elephant the regions south of these confines, and those north to the Mammoth, founding the constitution of the one in her extreme of heat, and that of the other in the extreme of cold. When the Creator has therefore separated their nature as far as the extent of the scale of animal life allowed to this planet would permit, it seems perverse to declare it the same, from a partial resemblance of their tusks and bones. But to whatever animal we ascribe these remains, it is certain such a one has existed in America, and that it was the largest of all terrestial beings of which any traces have ever appeared."

Two skeletons of this animal were found in 1801, in

the State of New York, in the vicinity of Newburgh: one of these is erected as a permanent establishment at the Museum, Philadelphia;* and the other was brought to England for the inspection of the curious. They consisted, at first, of all the neck, most of the vertebræ of the back, and some of the tail; most of the ribs, in greater part broken; both scapulæ, both humeri, with the radii and ulnæ; one femur, a tibia of one leg and a fibula of the other; some large fragments of the head, many of the fore and hind feet bones, the pulvis somewhat broken, and a large fragment five feet long, of the left tusk, about midway. The land, where these bones were found, was in possession of a farmer, and as the fields were then in grain, they delayed for a short time searching for the other bones, and employed the interim in mending those which were broken, and arranging the whole. On resuming their search, one of the men, thrusting his spade deeper than usual, struck something which he imagined to be a log of wood, but on cutting it to ascertain the kind, it was discovered to be a bone, and proved to be that of the thigh, three feet nine inches in length, and eighteen inches in circumference, in the smallest part. After much labour, and searching various morasses, other bones and fragments were found, till at last, the deficiencies were in a great measure supplied, and the skeletons of two terrific and gigantic animals, composed of these materials.

It is imagined that the Mammoth was clothed with hair or wool, which in most situations was quickly liable

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* Mr. Peale (of the above Museum) calls the Mammoth an antediluvian animal, and says that this skeleton was discovered in Ulster county, in the state of New York, in the year 1801. It is eleven feet ten inches high, and nineteen feet long. It has carnivorous grinders; in many respects it differs materially from the elephant, and is much larger, though formerly supposed to be of the same species. The tusks affixed to the skeleton are artificial, but a part of the real tusk is shewn, from which the size and shape are ascertained.—*Janson's Stranger in America.*

to decay. The only instance of hair being found with the remains of this animal, occurred in a morass belonging to Mr. A. Colden, in the neighbourhood where the above skeletons were found. The hair was coarse, long, and brown, a large mass of it together, and so rotten, that after a few days exposure to the air, it fell into a powder. The extirpation of this extraordinary animal may be attributed to the violent and sudden irruption of water, or to the prevalence of famine. Dr. Hunter, in his Essay on this subject, thus concludes: "If this animal was indeed carnivorous, which I believe cannot be doubted, though we may as philosophers regret it, as men, we cannot but thank heaven that its whole generation is probably extinct."

The Behemoth, that monstrous creature, mentioned in scripture (about which interpreters are much divided, some imagining it to be the whale, some the sea-calf or ox, and others, the devil, or the elephant) was probably the Mammoth; Behemoth signifying in the Hebrew language *any beast of a monstrous huge size;* if so, this animal was also graminivorous, as appears from the book of Job, Chapter 40, verse 15, &c. "Behold now Behemoth, he eateth grass as an ox—his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly—he moveth his tail like a cedar, the sinews of his strength are wrapped together—his bones are as strong pieces of brass, his bones are like bars of iron.—He is the chief of the ways of God—he that made him can make his sword approach unto him.—Surely the mountains bring him forth food, where all the beasts of the field play—he lieth under the shady trees, in the covert of the reed and fens.—The shady trees cover him with their shadow; the willows of the brook compass him about.—Behold he drinketh up a river, and hastneth not—he trusteth that he can draw up Jordan into his mouth—he taketh it with his eyes, his nose pierceth through snares."

Many bones of this animal were found, in 1799, in the State of New York, in a large plain, bounded on every side by immense mountains, in the vicinity of Newburgh, situated on the Hudson, or North River. These remains are also found on the side of the three great chains of mountains, the Alegany, the North Moun-

tains, and the Blue Mountains; in the interior parts of Pennsylvania and Carolina; and in new Jersey.

In 1817, Dr. Mitchell assisted in disinterring the remains of a mammoth, at Chester, fifty-four miles from the city of New York, Since that time the remains of another individual of this species have been found in a marsh, only thirty-two miles north. He also discovered another in the town of Goshen, Orange County, within sixty miles of New York, in a meadow belonging to a Mr. Yelverton. The soil is a black vegetable mould, of an inflammable nature. It abounds with pine-knots and trunks, and was, about thirty years ago, covered with a grove of white pine.trees. The length of the tooth was six inches, the breadth three and a half inches; the circumference of the lower jaw, including the tooth it contains, twenty-six inches; the length of the jaw, thirty five inches.

Dr. M' Murtrie, in his Sketches of Louisville, notices various remains of the Mastodon, found at the Big Bone Lick, mouth of the Great Miami; and at Cincinnati. At Jeffersonville, near Cincinnati, the skull of a Buffaloe, with one of the horns fast in the socket, completely petrified, was discovered: of which the Dr. observes:

"I was for many months very dubious how to consider a fossil, resembling a horn of the above mentioned animal, which I had found in one of the streets of Jeffersonville, when accident made me acquainted with an inhabitant of that town, before whose door it was picked up. He told me that he had some time before taken out from between the first and second strata of rock in the Falls, while quarrying stone there, the entire skull of a buffaloe, with one perfect horn fixed in it. Considering this a great curiosity, he had taken it home, where, a few days after, a philosophical carpenter, by way of ascertaining its nature, struck it with a hammer, and broke both skull and horn to pieces. Vexed at the accident and thinking the fragments of no value, he threw them out into the street, where I became the possessor of the horn, (at least, a great portion of it) in the manner already described."

Accounts from the banks of the Mississippi state, according to Mr. Tilloch's Philosophical Magazine, that

the Mammoth has been discovered actually in existence in the western deserts of North America.

According to the descriptions given of it, this Colosseus of the animal kingdom is not carnivorous, but lives on vegetables; more particularly on a certain species of tree, of which it eats the leaves, the bark, and even the trunk. It never lies down, and sleeps leaning for support against a tree. It has rather the shape of a wild boar than of an elephant, and is fifteen feet high. His body is covered by an hairy skin, and he has no horn.

One of the most extraordinary discoveries of modern times is the fossil, or petrified skeleton of a female, of about five feet two or three inches in height, on the Island of Guadaolupe; it is now preserved among the collections in the British Museum. Whether this be a real fossil, or a mere accidental incrustation, we must leave to the determination of those who have had the opportunity of investigation.

With the pious and energetic remarks of Mr. Parkinson, Author of Organic Remains, &c. we conclude this article:

"We cannot quit these monuments of former worlds," says Mr. P. "without alluding to the incontrovertible evidence they present of the exercise of Almighty Power and of the perpetual influence of a Divine Brovidence.

In the several formations composing the outer part of the earth down to the primitive rocks, vast accumulations exist of the fossil remains of organised beings, varying in each formation. and essentially differing from those beings which now exist. The discovery of animals peculiar to certain formations, and the general agreement with each other of the fossils of the same formations, have led to the belief that these several formations were the consequences of successive changes effected on the earth's surface; and that their contained fossils are the preserved remains of the several creations which had been successively formed to accord with the state of the planet under its several changes.*

The assumption of successive creations with accordant changes in the state of the planet, does not, indeed, agree

* For the Editor's sentiments on this subject, the Reader is referred to page 174 Museum Asianum.

with the Mosaic account of the creation; at least, in its ordinary acceptation. The facts, however, appear to be as they are stated. May not the discordance depend on a misconception of the Sacred Writings? Once more, with submission and deference—may not the days of creation be considered as periods of long and indefinite duration?

This system of successive creations fitted to the existing or predestined state of the planet, appears, not only not to derogate from the wisdom and power of the Almighty, but to be perfectly in agreement with the agency of Providence as taught by the Divine Author of our religion. The world is seen, in its formation and continuance, constantly under the providence of Almighty God, without whose knowledge not one sparrow falls to the ground.

Under these impressions, we view the results of these several changes and creations as manifesting the prescience, the power, and the benevolence of our great Creator. The general form of the earth's surface, varied by the distribution of hills and vallies, and of land and water; the prodigious accumulations of coal derived from the vegetables of a former creation, with the accompanying slates and schists; the useful, durable, and often beautiful, encrinital and shelly limestones! the immense formations of chalk and flint, and the various series of clays; all demonstrate a careful provision for the wants of man. The several breaks and faults in the stratified masses, and the various inclination of the strata, as well as the vast abruptions by which these several substances are brought to the hand of man, may be regarded as most beneficent provisions resulting from catastrophes too vast and tremendous for human intellect to comprehend.

From these several creations it appears that beings have proceeded, gradually increasing in superiority, from testaceous animals to reptiles, marine and fresh water amphibia, quadrupeds, and lastly to man, who, in his turn, is destined, with the earth he inhabits, to pass away, and be succeeded by a new heaven, and a new earth."

EXTRAORDINARY ANIMALS, VEGETABLES, &c.

EVER since the discovery of the New World, it has been the opinion of Europeans in general, that the Animals of America are inferior in strength, fierceness, and courage, to Animals of the same name, or class, on the old Continents, on which subject, Dr. Dwight, President of Yale College, in his letters addressed to an English Gentleman, just published, observes:

"The native quadrupeds of this country have been so often enumerated and described, that it would be trifling with you to mention them again. It is commonly asserted by the zoologists of Europe, that America, by a mysterious and malignant influence, derived from I know not what, and exerted I know not how, diminishes the size and deteriorates the qualities of all animals, both native and imported. I beg leave to assure you, that New England comes in for no share of this charge. To an American it is amusing enough to see how far your writers have imbibed an opinion, which in its own nature sets probability at defiance. In Guthrie's Geography* the following declarations have gone through fifteen editions:—"The caribou is the largest native animal in America, and is no bigger than a calf a year old." "The elk is a native of America, and is as big as a horse." Now whether a calf a year old is in Great Britain as big as a horse, or not, the editors of this work will undoubtedly claim a right to determine, to which I can make no pretensions, since I have never seen a British calf exactly of this age. In this country a horse is certainly much larger than such a calf; and hence I venture to conclude, that the caribou is not the largest native animal of America. Certainly he is not so large as the elk. I should judge from looking at this animal, of which I have seen several, that he would weigh from one thousand to eleven hundred pounds. The moose, which

* In the twenty-third edition, the idea of inferiority is retained, but the absurdity is corrected.—Ed.

s only a variety of the same kind, will probably weigh ourteen hundred pounds. A catalogue has been pubished by the Rev. Dr. Williams, in his History of Vermont, which very strongly illustrates the soundness of his philosophy. It is the following:—

	Weight in Europe.		Weight in Vermont.	
	lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.
The bear.....	153	7	456	0
Wolf.....	69	8	92	0
Deer.....	288	8	308	0
Fox, red.....	13	5	20	0
Porcupine.....	2	2	16	0
Martin.....	1	9	5	4
Polecat.....	3	3	7	8
Hare.....	7	6	8	0
Rabbit.....	3	4	7	0
Weasel.....	2	2	12	0
Ermine.....	8	2	14	0
Flying squirrel..	2	2	10	0
Beaver.....	18	5	63	8
Otter.....	8	9	29	8

The weight of these animals in Europe is given by M. de Buffon, and will therefore not be questioned. That f the American animals is given by Dr. Williams, and ıay of course be regarded as undoubtedly just. You ee that the comparison is not a little unfavourable to ıe eastern continent. If any conclusion is to be drawn om it, America is much more favourable to the growth f animals than Europe. At the same time you will re-:ember, that the white pine and the cypress of this ountry are giants, in comparison with the trees of the stern continent. What if we should turn the tables a you, and insist that your continent is grown too old) yield the productions of nature in their full size, while ırs young, if you please, certainly vigorous, nourishes ıem to a state of comparative perfection? Besides, ere you once to behold the skeleton of our *mammoth*, ou would be struck with astonishment, and regard the ıimals of Europe as a collection of pigmies.

There was last year raised in a town bordering near us, ı ox of the common breed, generally named the small

breed, in distinction from a larger heretofore common in this country, estimated by skilful judges to weigh alive three thousand five hundred pounds. There was also, a few weeks since, killed in the town where I reside, a hog, which weighed more than eight hundred and fifty pounds.

To give you my own opinion on this subject, I readily believe, that on both continents, if you choose the proper climate, species, and food, you may raise any of these animals to its full size. In the view of a sober American the contrary opinion, though dignified by the name of philosophy and made the subject of grave discussions of grave men, ranks with the stories of Lilliput and Brobdingnag, and would be readily supposed to have had its origin in the island of Laputa."

NORTH AMERICAN ANIMALS & VEGETABLES.

THE ELK.

(Bingley's Animal Biography.)

THE legs of Elks are so long, and their necks so short, that they cannot, like other animals, graze on level ground, but are obliged to browse the tops of large plants, and the leaves or branches of trees. In all their actions and attitudes they appear very uncouth; and, when disturbed, never gallop, but escape by a rapid kind of trot. In their common walk they lift their feet very high, and they are able, without difficulty, to step over a gate five feet in height.

Elks are the easiest to tame and domesticate of any animals of the Deer kind. They will follow their keeper to any distance from home; and, at his call, will return with him, without the least trouble, and without ever attempting to deviate from the path.

An Indian, at the Factory at Hudson's Bay, had, in the year 1777, two Elks so tame, that, when he was on his passage to Prince of Wales's Fort, in a canoe, they always followed him along the bank of the river; and at night, or on any other occasion, when he landed, they generally came and fondled on him in the same

manner as the most domestic animal would have done, and never attempted to stray from the tents. He did not, however, possess these animals long; for he one day crossed a deep bay in one of the lakes, in order to save a very circuitous route along its bank, and expected the creatures, would as usual, follow him round: but, unfortunately, they did not arrive; and as the howling of wolves was heard in the quarter where they were, it is supposed they had been devoured by those voracious beasts, for they were never afterwards seen.

M. D'Obsonville had a Moose-Deer in his possession, while in the East Indies. He procured it when only ten or twelve days old, and kept it about two years without ever tying it up. He even let it run abroad, and sometimes amused himself with making it draw in the yard, or carry little burdens. It always came when called, and he found few signs of impatience, except when it was not allowed to remain near him. When he departed from the island of Sumatra, he gave it Mr Law of Lauriston, the governor-general, an intimate friend. This gentleman sent it to his country-house, where, being kept alone, and chained, it became so furious as not to be approached without danger: even the person who every day brought its food was obliged to leave this at some distance. "After some months' absence (says M. D'Obsonville) I returned: it knew me afar off, and as I observed the efforts it made to get at me, I ran to meet it; and never shall I forget the impression which the caresses and transports of this faithful animal made upon me."

A successful attempt has been made at New York to to render the Elk useful in agricultural labour.

THE BROWN BEAR.

(The Editor, and Various Authorities)

IN the expedition to explore the Missouri, Captain Clarke and one of his hunters encountered one of the largest brown bears the party had ever seen. As they fired, he did not attempt to attack, but fled with a most tremendous roar, and such was his extraordinary

tenacity of life, that although he had five balls passed through his lungs, and five other wounds, he swam more than half across the river to a sand-bar, and survived twenty minutes. He weighed between five and six hundred pounds at least, and measured eight feet seven inches and a half from the nose to the extremity of the hind feet, five feet ten inches and a half round the breast, three feet eleven inches round the neck, one foot eleven inches round the middle of the fore-leg, and his talons, five on each foot, were four inches and three-eighths in length. It differs from the common black bear in having its talons much longer and more blunt; its tail shorter; its hair of a reddish or bay-brown, longer, finer, and more abundant; his liver, lungs, and heart, much larger even in proportion to its size, the heart particularly being equal to that of a large ox; his maw ten times larger; besides fish and flesh, he feeds on roots and every kind of wild fruit.

One of the men who had been ill, and suffered to walk on shore, came running to the boats with loud cries, and every symptom of terror and distress; for some time after he had been taken on board, he was so much out of breath as to be unable to describe the cause of his anxiety, but he at length said, that about a mile and half below, he had shot a brown bear, which immediately turned, and was in close pursuit of him; but the bear being badly wounded, could not overtake him. Captain Lewis, with seven men, immediately went in search of him, and having found his track, followed him by the blood for a mile, and found him concealed in some thick brushwood, and shot him with two balls through the skull. Though somewhat smaller than that recently killed, he was a monstrous animal, and a most terrible enemy; the man had shot him through the centre of the lungs, yet he had pursued him furiously for half a mile, then returned more than twice that distance, and with his talons had prepared himself a bed in the earth two feet deep, and five feet long, and was perfectly alive when they found him, which was at least two hours after he had received the wound. The wonderful power of life which these animals possess renders them dreadful; their very track in the

mud or sand, which has been sometimes found eleven inches long, and seven and a quarter wide, exclusive of the talons, is alarming. There is no chance of killing them by a single shot, unless the ball goes through the brains, and this is very difficult, on account of two large muscles which cover the side of the forehead, and the sharp projection of the centre of the frontal bone, which is also thick.

The men in the hindmost canoes discovered a large brown bear lying in the open grounds, about three hundred paces from the river; six of them all good hunters, immediately went to attack him, and, concealing themselves by a small eminence, came unperceived within forty paces of him; four of the hunters now fired, and each lodged a ball in his body, two of them directly through the lungs; the furious animal sprang up, and ran, open-mouthed upon them; as he came near, the two hunters who had reserved their fire, gave him two wounds, one of which breaking his shoulder, retarded his motion for a moment; but before they could reload, he was so near that they were obliged to run to the river, and before they reached it he had almost overtaken them; two jumped into the canoe; the other four separated, and concealing themselves in the willows, fired as fast as each could reload: they struck him several times, but instead of weakening the monster, each shot seemed only to direct him towards the hunters, till at last he pursued two of them so closely, that they threw aside their guns and pouches, and jumped down a perpendicular bank of twenty feet into the river; the bear sprang after them, and was within a few feet of the hindmost, when one of the hunters on shore shot him in the head, and finally killed him; they dragged him to the shore and found that eight balls had passed through him in different directions.

We cannot leave on record the intrepidity of Captain Clarke and his party, without protesting against that wanton cruelty often exercised by adventurers on the brute creation.

The laws of self-defence undoubtedly justify us in destroying those animals who would destroy us, who injure our property, or annoy our persons; but not even

these, whenever their situation incapacitates them from hurting us. What right have we to shoot a bear on an inaccessible island of ice, or an eagle on the mountain's top; whose lives cannot injure us, nor deaths procure us any benefit. We are unable to give life and therefore ought not wantonly to take it away from the meanest insect, without sufficient reason; they all receive it from the same benevolent hand as ourselves, and have, therefore an equal right to enjoy it.

The following is a well authenticated and striking instance of wanton, inhuman, and unnatural cruelty exercised on a poor bear:

"While the Carcass frigate was locked in the ice, early one morning three bears were descried directing their course over the frozen ocean towards the ship. They had no doubt been invited by the scent of some blubber of a sea-horse the crew had killed a few days before, which had been set on fire, and was burning on the ice at the time of their approach. They proved to be a she bear and her two cubs; but the cubs were nearly as large as the dam. They ran eagerly to the fire, and drew out of the flames part of the flesh of the sea horse that remained unconsumed, and ate it voraciously. The crew threw great lumps of the flesh of the sea-horse from the ship upon the ice, which the old bear fetched away singly, laid every lump before her cubs as she brought it, and dividing it, gave each a share, reserving but a small portion for herself. As she was fetching away the last piece, some of the crew levelled their muskets at the cubs, and shot them both dead; and in her retreat, wounded the dam, but not mortally. It would have drawn tears of pity from any but unfeeling hearts, to mark the affectionate concern expressed by this poor beast in the dying moments of her expiring young. Though she was sorely wounded herself, and could but just crawl to the place where they lay, she carried the last lump of flesh she had fetched, as she had done the others, and dividing it, laid it before them. When she saw they refused to eat, she put her paws first upon one and then upon the other, and endeavoured to raise them up: all this while it was affecting to hear her moans. When she found she could not stir them by these en-

rours, she went to some distance from them, looked
c, and moaned. This not availing her to entice them
y, she returned, and smelling round them, began to
their wounds. She went off a second time as before,
, having crawled a few paces, looked again behind
, and for some time stood moaning. But still her
not rising to follow her, she returned to them again,
with signs of inexpressible fondness went round one
round the other, pawing them and moaning. Find-
at last, that they were cold and lifeless, she raised
head towards the ship, and growled a curse upon their
derers, which they returned with a volley of musket
s. She fell between her cubs, and died licking their
nds." When they had beheld the maternal affection
ie dam, and the tender concern with which she sup-
d the wants of her cubs, they must be the most un-
ng and inhuman wretches to perform such an act of
ton barbarity.

THE BEAVER.

(Bingley's Animal Biography.)

HERE is reason to suppose that this animal was once
an inhabitant of Great Britain; for Giraldus Cam-
sis says, that Beavers frequented the river Tievi in
liganshire, and that they had, from the Welsh, a
e signifying "the Broad-tailed animals." Their
s were valued by the Welsh laws, in the tenth cen-
, at the enormous sum of a hundred and twenty
e each; and they seem to have constituted the chief
y and luxury of those days. Beavers are at present
ves of most of the northern parts of Europe and
, but are principally found in North America.
o other quadrupeds seem to possess so great a degree
atural sagacity as these. Yet when we consider that
r history, as hitherto detailed, has been principally
n from the reports of the Beaver-hunters, whose
ct it is, not to study the nature or manners of the
nals, but merely to seize upon them as articles of
merce, and whose accounts are often in themselves
radictory, it is necessary that we should not give

implicit faith to every thing that has been written, even by the most respectable authors, concerning them, where these authors have not themselves witnessed the facts they relate.

Beavers generally live in associated communities, consisting of as many as two or three hundred individuals; and they inhabit extensive dwellings, which they raise to the height of six or eight feet above the surface of the water. They select, if possible, a large pond; in which they raise their houses on piles, forming them either of a circular or oval shape, with arched tops, and thus giving them, on the outside, the appearance of a dome, while within they somewhat resemble an oven.

The houses are constructed, with the utmost ingenuity, of earth, stones, and sticks, cemented together, and plastered in the inside with surprising neatness. The walls are about two feet thick; and the floors so much higher than the surface of the water, as always to prevent them from being flooded. Some of the houses have only one floor; others have three. The number of Beavers in each house is from two to thirty.

During the summer-time, they quit their houses, and ramble about from place to place, sleeping under the covert of bushes, near the water-side. On the least noise, they betake themselves into the water for security; and they have sentinels, who, by a certain cry, give notice of the approach of danger. In the winter they never stir out, except to their magazines under the water; and during that season they become excessively fat.

In one of his excursions into the northern parts of Louisiana, M. du Pratz (who resided sixteen years in that country) gives us an account of a colony of Beavers, to many of whose operations he was himself a witness.

At the head of one of the rivers of Louisiana, in a very retired place, M. du Pratz found a Beaver dam. Not far from it, but hidden from the sight of the animals, he and his companions erected a hut, in order to watch the operations of these animals at leisure. They waited till the moon shone bright; and then, carrying in their hands branches of trees, in order to conceal themselves, they went with great care and silence to the

dam. M. du Pratz ordered one of the men to cut, as silently as possible, a gutter, about a foot wide, through it; and to retire immediately to the hiding-place.

"As soon as the water through the gutter began to make a noise (says this writer) we heard a Beaver come from one of the huts and plunge in. We saw him get upon the bank, and clearly perceived that he examined it. He then, with all his force, gave four distinct blows with his tail; when immediately the whole colony threw themselves into the water, and went to the dam. As soon as they were assembled, one of them appeared, by muttering, to issue some kind of orders; for they all instantly left the place, and went out on the banks of the pond in different directions. Those nearest to us were between our station and the dam, and therefore we could observe their operations very plainly. Some of them formed a substance resembling a kind of mortar; others carried this on their tails, which served as sledges for the purpose. I observed that they ranged themselves two and two, and that each animal of every couple loaded his fellow. They trailed the mortar, which was pretty stiff, quite to the dam, where others were stationed to take it; these put it into the gutter, and rammed it down with blows of their tails.

"The noise of the water soon ceased, and the breach was completely repaired. One of the Beavers then struck two blows with his tail; and instantly they all took to the water without any noise, and disappeared."

M. du Pratz and his companions afterwards retired to their hut to rest, and did not again disturb the animals till the next day. In the morning, however, they went to the dam, to see its construction; for which purpose it was necessary that they should cut part of it down. The depression of the water in consequence of this, together with the noise they made, roused the Beavers again. The animals seemed much agitated; and one of them, in particular, was observed several times to approach the labourers, as if to examine what passed. As M. du Pratz apprehended that they might run into the woods, if further disturbed, he advised his companions again to conceal themselves.

"One of the Beavers (continues our narrator) then

ventured to go upon the breach, after having several times approached and returned like a spy. He surveyed the place, and, with his tail, struck four blows, as he had done the preceding evening, with his tail. One of those that were going to work, passed close by me; and as I wanted a specimen to examine, I *shot him*. The noise of the gun made all the rest scamper off with greater speed than a hundred blows of the tail of the overseer could have done. By firing* at them several times afterwards, the animals were compelled to run with precipitation into the woods. M. du Pratz then examined their habitations.

Under one of the houses he found fifteen pieces of wood; with the bark in part gnawed off, apparently intended for food. And, round the middle of this house, which formed a passage for the Beavers to go in and out at, he observed no fewer than fifteen different cells.

Instances have occurred of Beavers having been domesticated. Major Roderfort, of New York, related to Professor Kalm, that, for a year and a half, he had in his house a tame Beaver, which was suffered to run about like a dog. The Major gave him bread; and sometimes fish, of which he was very greedy. As much water was put into a bowl as he wanted. All the rags and soft things he could lay hold off, he dragged into the corner where he was accustomed to sleep, and made a bed of them. The cat in the house, having kittens, took possession of his bed; and he did not attempt to interrupt her. When the cat went out, the Beaver often took one of the kittens between his paws, and held it to his breast to warm it, and seemed to dote upon it: as soon as the cat returned, he always restored to her the kitten. Sometimes he grumbled; but never attempted to bite.

In the year 1820, there were in the upper room at Exeter 'Change, London, two Beavers, which had been

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* What cruelty! Suppose an Angel, or some Superior Being was to employ himself in shooting or tormenting *men*, in order quietly to inspect *their* dwellings, would *they* patiently approve?

there some time. They were very tame, and would suffer themselves to be handled by the visitors; but most persons were alarmed, on approaching them, by the animals uttering their weak and plaintive cry. This noise they also frequently emitted during their play with each other. At times they were exceedingly gay and frolicsome, wrestling and playing with each other, as far as the limits of their small apartment would admit. They often sate upright to look about them, or to eat; and, if any thing moveable was given them to play with, they would drag it about, and seem highly pleased with it. They were in no instance observed to drag any thing about on their tails, or to make any attempts to do so. In all their manners these animals were extremely cleanly.

THE SKUNK.

(Bradbury's Travels.)

OF the animal called the skunk, Mr. Bradbury remarks, that in its defence it discharges a few drops of a liquid so fœtid, that the stench can scarcely be endured by any animal. Clothes on which the smallest particle has fallen, must be buried in the earth for at least a month before they can be worn. This liquor is highly inflammable, and is secreted in a gland beneath the tail, from which it is thrown with a force that will carry it to the distance of three or four yards. Only a very few of the American dogs can be induced to attack it, and those are so powerfully affected by the horrid stench, that they continue to howl for a considerable time afterwards, and instinctively relieve themselves by scratching holes in the earth, into which they put their noses. The skunk belongs to the weasel tribe, is of a blackish colour, with fine parallel white stripes from the head along the back and sides to the tail.

THE BALD EAGLE.

(Dr. Dwight's Journal.)

THE Bald Eagle (falco leucocephalus) is a bird of very great strength, size, and fierceness. A remarkable one was killed by Henry Nevins, of Hanover, State

of Vermont. It was upwards of three feet in height. Although it weighed but twelve pounds, it was judged sufficiently stout and bold enough to have attempted, and even destroyed, the lives of calves, sheep, and lambs. Its wings, extended, measured seven feet eight inches, and its claws were two and one fourth inches in length.

A few years since a bald eagle was killed at Brookfield, in the county of Fairfield, which measured between the extremities of the wings almost nine feet. He had killed a calf the same morning.

This formidable bird is so inclined to solitude as not often to be seen, except at a distance. He builds his nest on high mountains, or solitary islands, or in other lonely places, where there is little danger of being disturbed. He is much less than the condor, but, I think, more vigorous; and, when roused to violent exertion, more terrible.

Birds of prey in this country are of many kinds; yet, if we except the common or hen-hawk, they are few in number. It is a remarkable fact, that the

KING-BIRD, OR BEE EATER,

is an overmatch for any of them. This little animal, possessed of a sharp beak, unrivalled activity, and a spirit equally unrivalled, boldly attacks every other bird, and is always secure of victory. It is not a little amusing to see an enemy, so disproportioned in size and strength, vanquish the crow, the hawk, and the eagle. While on the wing he always rises above them; and, at short intervals, darting upon them with wonderful celerity, pierces them with his bill on the back and neck so painfully, that they make no efforts but to escape. Whenever they alight, he alights immediately over them, and quietly waits until they again take wing. Then he repeats the same severe discipline, until satisfied with victory and revenge he returns to his nest. This bird is an excellent defence of a garden against every enemy of the feather kind.

THE CROW

is easily taught to speak; as easily and as well, I believe, as the parrot, and, what is perhaps singular, to laugh. This is a very mischievous bird, whether

ld or tamed. When wild, it roots up the young ize, to come at the seed. When tame, it pilfers d flies away with almost every thing which it is le to carry."

THE SONGSTER OF THE WOODS.

(The Same.)

HE spring-bird, the meadow-lark, and particularly the robin red-breast, sing delightfully. There is, wever, a bird incomparably superior to either, and to other birds in this country, in the sweetness and hness of its notes. I am unable to describe it mitely, having never been sufficiently successful in my empts to approach it, to become thoroughly acquaintwith its form and colouring, although I have seen often. It is a small brown bird, scarcely so large as robin. Its notes are very numerous, and appear to varied at pleasure. Its voice is finer than any inument, except the Æolian harp. What is remarkle in this bird is, that it sings in a kind of concert, netimes with one, and sometimes with two of its comnions. When two of them unite, the voice of one is ularly elevated *a third greater* above that of the ier. When there are three, the third raises his voice *fifth* above the first, and of course *a third* less above second. In this manner a given set of notes is reated alternately by them all at equal intervals, and h inimitable sweetness of sound; forming, it is bered, the nearest approach to harmony found amongst feathered creation. I have named this bird *the gster of the woods.*

THE HUMMING BIRD.

(Taylor's Naturales Curiosæ.)

F all animated beings, says Buffon, this bird is the most elegant in form, and superb in colours. The cious stones, polished by art, cannot be compared to s jewel of nature. Her miniature productions are r the most wonderful; she has placed it in the order birds, at the bottom of the scale of magnitude; but

all the talents that are only shared amongst the others, she has bestowed profusely on this little favourite. The emerald, the ruby, and the topaz, sparkle in its plumage, which is never soiled by the dust of the ground. It is inconceivable how much these brilliant birds add to the high finished beauty of the western landscape. No sooner is the sun risen, than numerous kinds are seen fluttering abroad; their wings are so rapid in motion, that it is impossible to discern their colour, except by their glittering; they are never still, but continually visiting flower after flower, and extracting the honey. For this purpose they are furnished with a forked tongue, which enters the cup of the flower, and enables them to sip the nectared tribute; upon this alone they subsist. In their flight they make a buzzing noise, not unlike a spinning wheel, from whence they have their name.

The nests of these birds are not less curious than their form: they are suspended in the air at the extremity of a branch of an orange, a pome-granate, or a citron tree, and sometimes even to a straw pendant from a hut, if they find one convenient for the purpose. The female is the architect, while the male goes in quest of materials, such as fine cotton, moss, and the fibres of vegetables. The nest is about the size of half a walnut. They lay two eggs at a time, and never more, in appearance like small peas, as white as snow, with here and there a yellow speck. The time of incubation continues twelve days, at the end of which the young ones appear, being then not larger than a blue-bottle fly. "I could never perceive" (says Father Duteste) "how the mother fed them, except that she presented the tongue covered entirely with honey extracted from flowers." Those who have tried to feed them with syrups, could not keep them alive more than a few weeks; these aliments, though of easy digestion, are very different from the delicate nectar collected from the fresh blossoms. It has been alleged by various naturalists, that during the winter season they remain torpid, suspended by the bill from the bark of a tree, and are awakened into life when the flowers begin to blow; but these fictions are rejected; for Catesby saw

them throughout the year at St. Domingo and Mexico, where nature never entirely loses her bloom. Sloane says the same of Jamaica, only that they are more numerous after the rainy season. Marcgrave mentions them as being frequent the whole year in the woods of Brazil.

The method of obtaining these minute birds is to shoot them with sand, or by means of the trunk-gun: they will allow one to approach within five or six paces of them. It is easy to lay hold of the little creature while it hums at the blossom. It dies soon after it is caught, and serves to decorate the Indian girls, who wear two of these charming birds as pendants from their ears. The Indians indeed, are so struck and dazzled with the brilliancy of their various hues, that they have named them, *the Beams, or Looks of the Sun*. Such is the history of this little being, who flutters from flower to flower; breathes their freshness, wantons on the wings of the cooling zephyrs, sips the nectar of a thousand sweets, and resides in climes where reigns the beauty of eternal spring.

THE KAIMAN ALLIGATOR.

(Various Authorities)

THE Kaiman, a species of the alligator, or crocodile, is found in the southern rivers of the United States of America. Some of the Kaimans are of so monstrous a size as to exceed five yards in length. They devour all living animals that they can catch. They are fond of the flesh of hogs and dogs. When basking on the shore they keep their huge mouths wide open till they are filled with musquitoes, flies, and other insects, when they suddenly shut their jaws, and swallow their prey. They are great destroyers of fish in the rivers and creeks, which they catch with the same address.

Eight or ten of these lie at the river or creek, whilst others go to a distance up the river, and chase the fish downward, by which means none of any bigness escape them. They are said, however, to remain torpid during the winter, in dens which they find in the banks of the rivers, having previously swallowed a large quan-

tity of pine knots, which form their only sustenance till the period of their revival or waking. The kaiman constantly flies when on land; but in the water it is fiercer; it frequently attacks dogs. Sometimes, when hounds, in pursuit of a stag, swim through the water, the kaiman will seize both the hounds and deer, and pull them down to the bottom, without their ever appearing again.

At a wedding among the independent Indians, the bride retired from the company, in order to go down to the river to wash her feet. As she was thus employed, an alligator seized her. Her shrieks brought the people to the place, who saw her between the monster's teeth, and just drawn under the water. The bridegroom instantly plunged after, and, with his dagger in his hand, pursued the monster. After a desperate conflict, he made him deliver up his prey, and swam to the shore, with the body of his dead wife in his arms!

THE BULL FROG.

(Various Authorities.)

THIS is an animal that frequently measures from the nose to the hind-feet a foot and a half, or upwards. The colour of its body is a dusky olive or brown, marked with numerous dark spots, lighter beneath than above. The external membranes of the ears are large, round, and of a brownish red, surrounded by a yellowish margin.

The interior parts of America are the principal residence of this species, where, at the springs or small rills they are said to sit in pairs. In Virginia they are in such abundance, that there is scarcely any where a spring that has not a pair of them. When suddenly surprised, they leap into their hole, at the bottom of which they lie perfectly secure. The inhabitants fancy that these frogs purify the water, and they accordingly respect them as genii of the fountains.

Their croaking somewhat resembles the hoarse lowing of a bull; and when, in a calm night, many of these animals are making a noise together, they may be heard to the distance of a mile and a half. The night is the

time when they croak, and they are said to do this at intervals. In this act they are either hidden among the grass or rushes, or they are in the water, with their heads above the surface. Kalm informs us, that as he was one day riding out he heard one of them roaring before him, and supposed it to be a bull hidden in the bushes at a little distance. The voice was indeed more hoarse than that of a bull, yet it was much too loud for him to imagine that it could be emitted by so small an animal as a frog, and he was in considerable alarm for his safety. He was undeceived a few hours afterwards, by a party of Swedes, to whom he had communicated his fears.

When alarmed, these animals leap to a most surprising distance at each exertion. A full grown bull frog will sometimes leap three yards. The following story respecting one of them is well authenticated. The American Indians are known to be excellent runners, being almost equal to the best horse in its swiftest course. In order, therefore, to try how well the bull frogs could leap, some Swedes laid a wager with a young Indian that he could not overtake one of them, provided it had two leaps beforehand. They carried a bull frog which they had caught in a pond, into a field, and burnt its tail. The fire, and the Indian who endeavoured to outrun the frog, had together such an effect upon the animal, that it made its long leaps across the field as fast as possible. The Indian pursued it with all his might. The noise he made in running frightened the frog: probably it was afraid of being tortured with fire again, and therefore it redoubled its leaps, and by that means reached the pond, which was fixed on as the goal, before the Indian could overtake it.

In order to give the reader some idea of their great numbers and of their frightful cries, the following circumstance is related, having been vouched for an absolute fact by a native of the place.—*Vide Literary Chronicle, No.* 150.

"One summer-night, in the month of July, 1751, the town of Wyndham, which stands on the borders of the Winnomantic river, in Connecticut, was greatly alarmed by a number of these reptiles, which were marching,

or rather hopping in a body, from an artificial pond, near three miles square, that by the exceeding heat of the weather, was dried up. This pond was about five miles from Wyndham, and in their way to the Winnomantic river, they were under the necessity of keeping the road that led through the town; they entered about midnight—the *bull* frog, as being the most powerful in size as well as voice, in the front, the rest following; they were so exceedingly numerous, that they were some hours passing through, and, for want of water, unusually clamorous. The inhabitants were greatly terrified, and fled from their beds naked, nearly half a mile, imagining that they were the French and Indians; the men, after a small recollection, finding no enemy in pursuit, mustered courage enough to return; when they came near the town, they imagined they distinctly heard the words *wight, helderkin, dier,* and *terte,* which resembles the noise they make, and in their fright they thought the last word meant *treaty,* when three of them, in their shirts, approached to treat with the general of the French and Indians, but being dark, and no answer given, their terrors were greatly increased, and they were distracted between hope and fear: at length day-light appearing, they were eased from all their anxiety, by discovering, that this terrific enemy was an army of frogs, dying with thirst, going to the river for a little water."

THE GREAT SEA SERPENT.

(Various Authorities.)

IN the month of August, 1817, it being currently reported, that an animal of very singular appearance had been recently and repeatedly seen in the harbour of Gloucester, near Cape Ann, thirty miles from Boston, the Linnæan Society of New England, in a meeting at Boston, on the 12th of August, appointed the Hon. John Davis, Jacob Bigelow, M. D. and Francis C. Gray, Esq. a committee, to collect evidence with regard to the existence and appearance of such an animal.

Accordingly on the 19th of August, the committee

wrote to the Hon. Lonson Nash, of Gloucester, requesting him to examine upon oath, some of the inhabitants of that town upon the subject; from which testimonies the following are selected.

Eighth Deposition.

"I William B. Pearson, of Gloucester, merchant, depose, that I have several times seen a strange marine animal that I believe to be a serpent of great size.

I have had a view of him only once, and this was on the 18th of August, 1817. I was in a sail boat, and when off Webber's Cove, I saw something coming out, we hove-to, not doubting but that it was the same creature that had been seen several times in the harbour. The serpent passed out under the stern of our boat towards Ten-Pound Island; then he stood in towards us again, and crossed our bow. We immediately exclaimed, 'here is the snake!' From what I saw of him, I should say, that he was seventy feet in length. I distinctly saw bunches on his back, and once he raised his head out of the water. The top of his head appeared flat. His colour was a dark brown. I saw him at this time about two minutes. His motion was vertical. His velocity at this time was not great; though, at times, I have seen him move with great velocity,—I should say at the rate of a mile in three minutes, and perhaps faster. His size I judged to be about that of half a barrel. I saw Mr. Gaffney fire at him, at about the distance of thirty yards. I thought he hit him, and afterwards he appeared more shy. He turned very short, and appeared as active as the eel, when compared to his size. I thought that I saw his eye at one time, and it was dark and sharp. I saw ten or twelve distinct bunches out of the water at one time; but I saw none towards what I thought to be his tail."

Letter to Judge Davis, President of the Linnæan Society, stating former Appearances of the same Serpent.

Bath, September 17th, 1817.

DEAR SIR,

I make no apology for communicating to you the following statements, in reference to the sea serpent of our coasts.

They consist of extracts from some MS. notes on the District of Maine, which I have been in the habit of making ever since I have resided in the country.

"June 28th 1809.—The Rev. Mr. Abraham Cummings," who has navigated his own boat among the islands, &c. informs me, "that in Penobscot Bay, has been occasionally seen, within these thirty years, a sea serpent, supposed to be about sixty feet in length, and of the size of a sloop's mast. He saw him in company with his wife and daughter, and a young lady of Belfast, Martha Spring; and judged he was about three times the length of his boat, which is twenty-three feet. When he was seen this time, he appeared not to notice the boat, though he was distant as nearly as could be ascertained, but about fifteen rods. Mr. Cummings observes, that the British saw him in their expedition to Bagaduse; that the inhabitants of Fox and Long Islands have seen such an animal; and that a Mr. Crocket saw two of them together, about twenty-two years since. When he was seen by the inhabitants of Fox Island, two persons were together at both times. People also of Mount Desert have seen him. One of those which were seen by Mr. Crocket, was smaller than that seen by Mr. Cummings; and their motion in the sea appeared to be a perpendicular winding, and not horizontal. The British supposed the length of that which they saw, to be three hundred feet, but this Mr. Cummings imagines to be an exaggeration. The Rev. Alden Bradford, of Wiscasset, now secretary of the common-wealth, inquired of Mr. Cummings, whether the appearance might not be produced by a number of porpoises following each other in a train; but Mr. Cummings asserts, that the animal held his head out of water about five feet, till he got out to sea; for, when seen, he was going out of the Bay, and Mr Cummings was ascending it. The colour was a bluish green about the head and neck, but the water rippled so much over his body that it was not possible to determine its tint. The shape of the head was like that of a common snake, flattened, and about the size of a pail. He was then seen approaching, passing, and departing. The weather was calm, and it was the month of August; in which month it is said the serpent makes his appearance on the coast.

August 23, 1809.—Mr. Charles Shaw, (then of Bath, now an attorney at Boston) informed me, that a Captain Lillis, with whom he had sailed, told him that he had seen off the coast a very singular fish, which was about forty feet long. It held its head erect, had no mane, and looked like an ordinary serpent.

About two years after hearing this, while on a journey to India Old Town, I had an opportunity to make farther inquiry, and find in my journal the following entry:

"September 10, 1811.—A Mr. Staples of Prospect, was told by a Mr. Miller, of one of the isiands of the bay, that he had seen the great sea serpent, and 'it was as big as a sloop's boom, and about sixty or seventy feet long.' Mr. Staples told me also, that about 1780, as a schooner was lying at the mouth of the river, or in the bay, one of these enormous creatures leaped over it between the masts; that the men ran into the hold for fright, and that the weight of the serpent sank the vessel 'one streak,' or plank. The schooner was about eighteen tons."

About four weeks after the foregoing depositions had been received, a serpent of remarkable appearance was brought from Gloucester to Boston, and exhibited as the progeny of the great serpent. It had been killed upon the sea-shore by some labouring people of Cape Ann. Captain Beach, jun. the possessor, very liberally submitted it to examination, and permitted an opening to be made in the side for the inspection of its internal structure."

It is scarcely possible to dispute the evidence which has been adduced in favour of the existence of this enormous inhabitant of the deep, still, some doubt may remain.

RATTLE-SNAKE, RING-SNAKE, AND BLACK-SNAKE.

(Dwight's Journal.)

AMONG the reptiles of New-England the Rattle-snake seems to have been made an object of more attention, in Europe, than any other. This animal has

there been commonly supposed, but erroneously, to be very dangerous to man. His bite is, indeed, a strong poison; but is both certainly and easily cured.* Besides, he is so clumsy, as to be avoided without any difficulty. His whole progress is formed by coiling himself up, and then stretching himself again at full length. These snakes have, therefore, long since ceased to be objects of anxiety. They are also rare, except in some solitary places.

THE RING-SNAKE†

is long, slender, and black, with a white ring round its neck. This animal, when running, raises his head and about half his body, in a perpendicular position; and in this posture moves with very great rapidity. These snakes are very rare and not venomous; but are said, in solitary instances, to have wound themselves closely round the limbs of persons, falling asleep carelessly on the ground in forests.

There are few other animals of this class, which are venomous; but they are either so rare, or so inefficient, as scarcely to be thought of by the inhabitants of the country.

It has been often said, that snakes have the power of fascinating birds. The following account concerning this subject may not be unacceptable to you. It was communicated to me by a student of Yale college, and deserves entire credit.

As this young gentleman, together with some companions, was walking one morning through a grove, in the summer season, they heard a bird scream in an unusual manner. Upon examination, they found a blue jay flying in a horizontal direction, about fifteen feet from the ground, from a certain tree; and, after having extended its flight about thirty rods, returning again to the same tree. Its excursions, however, be-

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* See page 146 this volume.

† A fine specimen of the Ring-snake, preserved in spirits, is now in the possession of the Editor of this work, presented to him by Wm. Cooke, Esq. late of Demarara.

e in every instance shorter, and its flight at every rn was directed to a particular part of the tree. This urally led the young gentlemen to search for the se of so remarkable a phenomenon. They found in part of the tree a large Black-snake, extended upon nb, at the height at which the bird flew. Curiosity ced them to continue their observation, until the became nearly exhausted, and appeared to be on point of becoming a prey to its enemy. One of the pany then threw a club into the tree, and thus di-ed the attention of both the snake and the bird. The m, if I may be permitted to use this language, was ediately dissolved, and the intended victim escaped out any difficulty."

VEGETABLES.

THE LAUREL MAGNOLIA.

(*Winterbotham's America.*)

HE Laurel Magnolia is the most beautiful among the trees of the forest, and is usually one hundred high, though some are much higher. The trunk is ctly erect, rising in the form of a beautiful column, supporting a head like an obtuse cone. The flowers m the extremities of the branches; are large, white, expanded like a rose, and are the largest and most plete of any yet known; when fully expanded, they rom six to nine inches diameter, and have a most ious fragrance. The cypress is the largest of American trees. "I have seen trunks of these ," says Bartram, "that would measure, eight,* ten, twelve feet in diameter, for forty and fifty feet ght shaft." The trunks make excellent shingles, ds, and other timber; and when hollowed, make ble and convenient canoes. "When the planters fell

* In the State of Kentucky poplars grow to an im-se height, and frequently measure eight feet in eter.—*Blowe's America.*

these mighty trees, they raise a stage around them, as high as to reach above the buttresses; on this stage eight or ten negroes ascend with their axes, and fall to work round its trunk.

THE AMERICAN ALOE.

(Jamieson's Voyages.)

THE great, or American Aloe, the leaves of which are thick, fleshy, and spinous at the edge, and the stem branched, and of great height. The flowers have the tube of the corolla narrowed in the middle, the stamens longer than the corolla, and the style longer than the stamens.

This magnificent native of North America is by no means an uncommon plant in our gardens in England; but with us, it is seldom seen in flower. There is, indeed a notion, but an erroneous one, that the American aloe does not bloom until it is a hundred years old. The fact is, that the flowering depends almost wholly on its growth. In hot countries it will flower in a few years; but as its growth depends upon the climate, so does its flowering; and thence arises the curiosity which is excited when one is in flower in or near London; and hence also arises the tale of their flowering but once in a hundred years.

SOUTH AMERICAN ANIMALS & VEGETABLES.

(From Adams's Flowers of Modern Voyages, &c.)

THE natural history of the province of Buenos Ayres is very interesting. The horses here are spirited, beautiful, and swift, and are never used except for the saddle; all carriages being drawn by oxen. Their walk is so quick, and their steps so long, that in walking they equal the trot of an European horse.—Besides the horses and horned cattle that have multiplied so amazingly in the plains of South America, great numbers of wild dogs are met with. They attack and kill some of the wild cattle; they live under ground in holes, which may be easily discovered by the quantity of bones heaped round them. Their great numbers and their ravages, occa-

sioned one of the governors of Buenos Ayres to send out an armed force to destroy them.

THE LAMA AND THE PACO,

both natives of the mountainous parts of Peru, also inhabit the higher districts of Tucuman. The Lamas constitute the principal riches of the Indians; their flesh is excellent food, and their wool highly useful; they will also carry very heavy burdens in the most rugged and dangerous roads, though they seldom travel more than fifteen miles a day. When they stop to rest, they bend their knees very carefully, and they rest with their legs folded under their bellies. The neck is like that of the camel, to which animal it bears a great resemblance; and satisfied with a small portion of vegetables and grass, they neither want corn or hay; but the guenacos, or wild lamas, are stronger, brisker, and swifter than the domestic ones. When the wild ones see any of the human species they regard him at first with astonishment, without shewing any fear or surprise; but shortly after, as if by common consent, they blow through their nostrils, neigh like horses, take flight all at once, and ascend the tops of the mountains. Here, it is vain either for the hunters, or dogs to follow them. Whilst grazing, too, they place a sentinel on an eminence, who, upon the approach of hunters, gives an alarm to the rest.

The PACO, or VICUNNA, the one its domesticated, the other its wild denomination, is as much inferior to the lama as the ass to the horse. Their wool, however, being fine and long, is a valuable article of merchandise; the natural colour of it is that of a rose leaf, and is so permanent, that it undergoes no alteration under the hands of the manufacturer. The Pacos are of the same disposition, manners, and nearly of the same temperament as the lamas; and though smaller, and having shorter legs, resemble them in figure. They inhabit and pasture on the highest parts of the mountains. The domestic Pacos, are employed to carry burdens like the Lamas; but are of such a stubborn nature, that if once they fall down with a load, they will suffer themselves to be cut to pieces rather than rise. The Paco is never found in the valleys, and will die if brought into warm

countries. All these animals produce bezoar stones in a greater or lesser degree.

THE PUMA, OR AMERICAN LION,

is much smaller than those of Africa, or Asia, and the male has no mane. They avoid the sight of man, and commit no havoc, but among cattle; they are generally of a grey colour; but in Chaco, their fur is red and very long. They are cowardly, fly from the barking of a dog, and climb up trees. When caught by the Indians, they are kept in cages. Of the American Tigers, there are two kinds,

THE JAGUAR,

and the congar; the former in size, resembles the ounce, and the ground of its colour is a bright yellow. It is a formidable and cruel animal, yet when its appetite is gorged, a single dog will put him to flight. All the animals fly from the jaguar, the ant-eater only; he, on being attacked, turns on his back, and often preserves himself by the strength of his claws.

THE CONGAR

is longer, but less thick than the jaguar; he has a small head, long tail and short hair; his colour, a lively red, intermixed with some black tints, particularly on the back. Though not so strong, he is equally fierce, and perhaps crueller than the jaguar; though, like him, cowardly when glutted. Of the yaguaru, or water tiger, and the anta, or danta, there are no accounts given that can be depended on for veracity. The peccari, or Mexican hog, is found in some parts of Paraguay; this is in a great measure a useless animal.

THE TAPIR

is of the size of a small cow, but has neither horns or tail; the head is thick and long, with a kind of trunk like a rhinoceros. He feeds upon plants and roots, and is mild and timid, flying from every attack or danger; and though his legs are short, and his body heavy, he runs swiftly, and swims still better than he runs; his flesh coarse and insipid, is only eaten by the Indians

TATOOS, OR ARMADILLOS,

are very numerous all over South America. Instead of hair, they are covered with a testaceous crust, which ex-

tends over the back, head, and tail, the throat, breast, and belly, having a white grainy skin, like that of a plucked fowl, though some have hair on those parts. The crust is not in one piece, but divided into several bands; however, these animals can all contract themselves into a round form, with more or less facility. Except in gardens, they are innocent and harmless. They walk quickly, but can neither leap, run, or climb up trees, so that they have no refuge from their pursuers, but to hide themselves in their holes. If hunted near a precipice, the armadillo will escape both dogs and men; for contracting, he rolls down like a ball. Their flesh is reckoned as good as that of a sucking pig.

THE TITIS, OR MONKEYS,

of the most elegant form and beautiful colour, come from the banks of the Cassequiare. Those from the shores of the Guvaiare, are large and difficult to tame. No monkey possesses so much of the physiognomy of a child as the Titi. When seized with apprehension, its eyes are instantly filled with tears, and its sagacity is so striking, that one of them which M. de Humboldt brought in his boat to Angostura, perfectly distinguished the different plates annexed to the *Tableau Elementaire d'Histoire*, &c. by M. Cuvier. The engravings of this work are not coloured, yet the Titi, that is extremely fond of spiders, put forward its little hand in the hope of catching a wasp or a grasshopper, every time they showed it one of the plates. But when it was shewn engravings of skeletons, or heads of mammiferous animals, it evinced the most perfect indifference. If several of these little animals are shut up in the same cage, and it happens to rain, or any coolness in the air takes place, they twist their tails round their necks, and intertwine their arms and legs to warm each other. In the forests, the Indian hunters have met with groups of them in this situation, sending forth the most lamentable cries, because those without wanted to enter the group to partake of warmth and shelter. They are in general delicate and timid, and become melancholy and dejected in proportion as they are made to quit their native regions and enter the plains.

Near the *Vuelta de Basilio*, where M. de Humboldt landed to collect plants, two beautiful little monkeys were seen on the top of a tree, as black as jet, with pensile tails; and the Indians owned they had never seen any that resembled them. In fact, these wilds abound in sapajous, unknown to the naturalists of Europe, and as monkeys, especially those that live in troops, make long emigrations at certain times, it often happens that about the beginning of the rainy season, the natives discover different kinds of them about their habitations, which they had never before observed.

The BIRD which naturally claims the first attention is the emu, or

THE OSTRICH OF SOUTH AMERICA.

It is generally six feet high from the head to the feet. The legs are three feet long, and the thighs nearly as thick as those of a man. The toes, three on each foot, differ from those of the ostrich. The emu has a long neck, small head, and the bill is flattened like that of the ostrich; the wings are very short, and it has no tail; but the back and rump are covered with long feathers. It runs with such swiftness that the fleetest dogs are thrown out in the pursuit. The celebrated

CONDOR OF THE CORDILLERAS

has been compared both to the eagle and the vulture. The beak is so strong as to pierce the body of a cow; and the Indians say they will carry off a deer, a young calf, or a sheep. They seldom frequent the forests, as they require a large space for the display of their wings; but are principally observed on the elevated pinnacles of the mountains, and occasionally on the sea-shore and banks of the rivers. In the deserts of Pachomac, where they are chiefly seen, men seldom venture to travel. "These wild regions are sufficient of themselves to inspire a secret horror—broken precipices—prowling tigers—forests only rendered vocal by the hissing of serpents, and mountains rendered still more terrible by the condor, the only bird who has its residence in these desolate places." Carrion vultures are very common,

and fly in large flocks, and are of great utility in devouring snakes and other vermin; this bird is as large as a turkey.

THE DISPERTADOR,

or awakener, is a singular bird. On hearing the approach of any creature, man or beast, they rise from the ground, and make a loud chattering, flying about in the air over the object that gives the alarm. The other birds, understanding this immediately rise, and escape the threatened danger. This bird is about the size of a middling fowl, its plumage black and white, and its head beautifully adorned with a plume of feathers. The macagua is about the size of a sparrow, and feeds upon snakes, not being afraid to attack the most venomous. Mocking birds are common in some parts, and the zumbador or humming bird, are seldom seen but often heard.

The rivers abound in fish, and

THE DORADO, OR GOLD FISH,

are very plentiful and much esteemed. Some of them are six feet long, and weigh from twenty to thirty pounds each; the flesh is white and firm; the eyes are surrounded with circles of shining gold; the tail and fins are of a gold colour; and altogether display an inimitable brilliancy. The most delicious fish in these rivers is the paeku; it is thick and broad, like the turbot, its breadth being two thirds of its length. The corvino, another fish, is only found near the mouth of the Plata, where the salt and fresh water mix together. It is as large as a middle-sized carp, and in its shape resembles a cod fish, and is very good diet, either fresh, salted or dried. The pejereyes, or king's fish, is a kind of smelt or sparling, and about the size of a mackerel. When fresh they are considered a great dainty. Of

AMPHIBIOUS ANIMALS

turtles are not often, but sometimes, met with. Seals and sea lions abound at the Isla de Lobos, off Monte Video, and alligators, or kaimans are large, numerous and destructive in almost all the rivers; but a description of the many reptiles and insects that infest different parts of South America would perhaps only interest the professed naturalist. With respect to fruits and

trees, a numerous catalogue might be given of the various indigenous and imported productions which either grow wild, or are cultivated with more or less attention; suffice it to add, that every variety of tropical and European fruits, pulse, grain and flowers, are yielded in larger or smaller quantities. To the lover of Nature in all her wonders and varieties, South America presents a field of boundless extent. Although neither the elephant nor the rhinoceros exist in these regions, bones have certainly been found in the banks of the Rio Tercero, and of the Parana, and Paraguay, and in some parts of Peru, which must either have belonged to those animals, or to some of similar or greater magnitude. Upon a more accurate inspection they will probably be found to belong to the same extinct species as those found in North America, to which the name of Mammoth has been given; but this subject is embraced by a previous article. *See page* 152.

THE LAND CRAB.

(Jamieson's Voyages.)

THESE animals live not only in a kind of orderly society, in the retreats in the mountains; but regularly, once a year, march down to the sea-side in a body of some millions at a time. As they multiply in great numbers, they choose the month of April or May to begin their expedition; and then sally out by thousands from the stumps of hollow trees, from the cliffs of rocks, and from the holes which they dig for themselves under the surface of the earth. At that time the whole ground is covered with this band of adventurers; there is no setting down one's foot without treading upon them. The sea is the place of their destination, and to that they direct their march with right-lined precision. No geometrician could send them to their destined station by a shorter course; they neither turn to the right nor left, whatever obstacles intervene; and even if they meet with a house they will attempt to scale the walls, to keep the unbroken tenor of their way. But though this is the general order of their rout, they, upon other occasions, are obliged to conform to the face of the country; and if

it is intersected with rivers, they are then seen to wind along the course of the stream. These are often obliged to halt for want of rain, and go into the most convenient encampment till the weather changes. The main body of the army is composed of females, which never leave the mountains till the rain is set in for some time. The night is their chief time of proceeding; but if it rains by day, they do not fail to profit by the occasion; and they continue to move forward in their slow uniform manner. When the sun shines, and is hot upon the ground, they make a universal halt, and wait till the cool of the evening. When they are terrified, they march back in a confused disorderly manner, holding up their nippers, with which they sometimes tear off a piece of the skin, and then leave the weapon where they inflicted the wound. They even try to intimidate their enemies; for they often clatter their nippers together, as if to threaten those that disturb them. But though they thus strive to be formidable to man, they are much more so to each other; for they are possessed of one most unsocial property, which is, that if any of them by accident be maimed, in such a manner as to be incapable of proceeding, the rest fall upon and devour it on the spot, and then pursue their journey. When, after a fatiguing march, and escaping a thousand dangers (for they are sometimes three months in getting to the shore), they have arrived at the destined port, they prepare to cast their spawn, which, shaking off into the water, they leave accident to bring it to maturity. At this time, shoals of hungry fish are at the shore, in expectation of this annual supply: the sea, to a great distance, seems black with them; and, about two-thirds of the crab's eggs are immediately devoured by these rapacious invaders. The eggs that escape are hatched under the sand; and, soon after, millions at a time of these little crabs are seen quitting the shore, and slowly travelling up to the mountains. This animal when possessed of its retreats in the mountains, is impregnable; for only subsisting on vegetables, it seldom ventures out, and its habitation being in the most inaccessible places, it remains for a great part of the season in perfect security. It is only when impelled by a desire of bringing forth its

young, and when compelled to descend into the flat country, that it is taken. At that time the natives wait for its descent in eager expectation, and destroy thousands; but, disregarding their bodies, they only seek for that small spawn, which lies on each side of the stomach, within the shell, of about the thickness of a man's thumb. They are much more valuable upon their return after they have cast their shell; for being covered with a skin resembling soft parchment, almost every part, except the stomach, may be eaten. They are taken in the holes, by feeling for them with an instrument; they are sought after by night, when on their journey, by flambeaux. The instant the animal perceives itself attacked, it throws itself on its back, and with its claws pinches most terribly whatever it happens to fasten on. But the dextrous crab-catcher takes them by the hinder legs in such a manner, that the nippers cannot touch him, and thus he throws them into his bag. Sometimes also they are caught when they take refuge in the bottoms of holes in rocks by the sea-side, by covering the mouth of the hole, to prevent their getting out; and then, soon after, the tide coming, enters the hole, and the animal is found upon its ebbing, drowned in its retreat. These crabs are of various sizes, the largest about six inches wide; they walk sideways, like the sea crab, and are shaped like them; some are black, some yellow, some red, and others variegated with red, white, and yellow, mixed.

FIRE FLIES.

(*The Same.*)

THERE are many kinds of fire flies; but the lantern fly of Peru, the folgora lanternaria, is undoubtedly one of the most curious. It is of a very considerable size, measuring nearly three inches and a half from wing's end to wing's end, when expanded. The body is of a lengthened oval shape, and divided into several rings or segments; the head is nearly equal to the length of the rest of the animal, and is oval, inflated, and bent slightly upwards: the ground colour is an elegant yellow, with a strong tinge of green in some parts,

and marked with numerous bright red-brown variegations in the form of stripes and spots; the wings are very large, of a yellow colour, most elegantly varied, with brown undulations and spots, and the lower pair are decorated with a very large eye-shaped spot on the middle of each, the iris or border of the spot being red, and the centre half red, and half semi-transparent white. The head, or lantern, is pale yellow, with longitudinal red stripes. This beautiful insect is a native of Surinam, and many other parts of South America; and, during the night, diffuses so strong a phosphoric splendour from its head or lantern, that it may be employed for the purpose of a candle or torch.

GYMNOTUS, OR ELECTRICAL EEL.

(Humboldt's Journey to the River Apure.)

THE electric eels are difficult to be caught by nets, on account of their extreme agility, and their burying themselves in the mud. The Indians told M. Humboldt and his party that they would "set the fish on sleep," or intoxicate them with horses. The travellers found it difficult to conceive what this meant: but, in a short time, they saw several persons who had been sent to the savanna, return with about thirty horses and mules which they had collected. The extraordinary noise caused by the horses' hoofs, on approaching and entering the water, made the fish issue from the mud, and excited them to combat. These yellowish and livid eels, resembling large aquatic serpents, swam on the surface of the water, and crowded under the bellies of the horses. Several Indians, furnished with harpoons, and long slender reeds, closely surrounded the pool; and by their wild cries, and the length of their reeds, prevented the horses from reaching the bank and running away. The eels stunned the horses by repeated shocks, like those from an electric battery, which they are capable of giving. Several of the horses sank beneath the violence of the invisible strokes which they received on all sides; and, stunned by the force and frequency of them, disappeared under the water.

Others, panting, with mane erect and haggard eyes, expressive of anguish, raised themselves, and endeavoured to flee from the storm by which they were overtaken. In less than five minutes two of the horses were drowned. The eels, each about five feet long, pressed themselves against the belly of the horses, and made a discharge along the whole extent of their electric organ. By the shock thus received, these horses were stunned; and, no doubt, were drowned from the impossibility of rising amid the prolonged struggle between the other horses and the eels. At length the eels became exhausted, and timidly approached the edge of the pool, where several of them were caught by means of small harpoons fastened to long cords.

Baron de Humboldt says, that some of these eels were upwards of five feet in length; and that one of them three feet ten inches long weighed twelve pounds. It would, he observes, be temerity to expose oneself to the first stroke of a large and strongly irritated gymnotus: that a stroke from such a fish would be productive of more pain and numbness than from the discharge of a large electric jar; and that he received so dreadful a shock, by imprudently placing his feet on one just taken out of the water, that he was affected, during the rest of the day, with a violent pain in his knees, and almost in every joint.

SEA-LION.

(Heron's Elegant Extracts.)

WOODS ROGERS says, "the Sea-lion is a very strange creature, and of a prodigious size. I have seen some of them above twenty feet long, and they could not weigh less than four thousand pounds. Others were sixteen feet long, and might weigh about two thousand pounds. The quantity of oil they yielded was amazing. The figure of their body approaches to that of the sea-calf; but their skin is thicker than that of an ox. The hair is short and coarse, the head disproportionably large, and the mouth remarkably big; the eyes are of a monstrous size. The muzzle resembles that of a lion, with terrible whiskers, the hairs of which are so

stiff that they may serve as tooth-picks. About the end of the month of June, these animals repair to the Island of Juan Fernandez, in order to produce their young, which they deposit about a gun-shot from the margin of the sea. There they remain till the end of September, without moving out of the place, and without taking any nourishment; at least we never saw them eat. I observed some of them continue eight days in the same spot, and they would not have abandoned it, if we had not frighted them. At the island of Lesbos, on the coast of Peru, we saw some sea-lions, and a greater number of seals.

THE ANIMAL FLOWER.

(Various Authorities.)

AS in man, the most perfect part of the sublunary creation, there are apparently seen several different degrees of perfection of body and mind; and in animals the sagacity of some evidently superior to that of others; so likewise in this seemingly confused species of animal life, and vegetable appearance, the chain gradually descends with a surprising mixture and connexion.

Whoever has leisure and abilities to pursue a general enquiry of this nature, will soon find, that this progressive series runs through the whole creation, from the most exalted genius to the almost senseless idiot; from the most sagacious sensible creature to the almost insensible muscle; from the towering cedar to the hyssop springing from the wall, or the humble moss.

Such is that universal harmony and connexion, that runs through the numberless ranks and orders of beings, till we come at last to inanimate matter.*

"How wond'rous is this scene! where all is form'd
With number, weight, and measure! all design'd
For some great end! —— —— Each moss,
Each shell, each crawling insect holds a rank
Important in the plan of Him, who fram'd
This scale of beings; holds a rank, which lost
Would break the chain, and leave behind a gap,
Which Nature's self would rue."

In a cavern of the Island of St. Lucie, near the sea, is a large basin, from twelve to fifteen feet deep, the

* Vide page 180 Museum Asianum.

water of which is very brackish, and the bottom composed of rocks. From these, at all times, proceed certain substances, which present, at first sight, beautiful flowers, of bright shining colour, and pretty nearly resembling our marigolds, only that their tint is more lively. These seeming flowers, on the approach of a hand or instrument, retire, like a snail out of sight. On examining their substance closely, there appears, in the middle of the disk, four brown filaments, resembling spider's legs, which move round a kind of petal with a brisk and spontaneous motion. These legs have pincers to seize their prey; and upon seizing it, the yellow petals immediately close, so that it cannot escape. Under this exterior of a flower is a brown stalk, of the size of a raven's quill, and which seems to be the body of some animal. It is probable that this strange creature lives on the spawn of fish, and the marine insects thrown by the sea into the basin.

VEGETABLES.

THE COW TREE.

(*Humboldt's Travels.*)

AT a plantation called Barbula, by which the new road to Valencia is traced out, Baron Humboldt first heard of a tree, the juice of which being a nourishing milk, is called the *cow tree*. As all the milky juices of plants are more or less acrid, bitter, and poisonous, this account appeared very extraordinary; but the strangers during their stay, found by experience, that the virtues of the *cow tree* had not been over-rated. It rises like the broad-leaved star apple; and its oblong and pointed leaves, tough and alternate, are marked by lateral ribs, prominent at the lower surface, and parallel; some of these are ten inches long; the fruit is said to be somewhat fleshy, and to contain one, and sometimes two nuts. The milk obtained by incision, is rather disagreeably thick, of an agreeable and balmy smell, and by no means acrid. The Negroes and free people dip their bread into it at their meal times, and are said to grow

fatter than ordinary, whilst this tree is in a flourishing state. This extraordinary production appears to be peculiar to the Cordillera of the coast, particularly from Barbula to the Lake of Maracaybo. At Caucaqua, the natives call it the milk tree. No botanist has hitherto been acquainted with the nature of this plant, of which M. de Humboldt observes, it is easy to procure the parts of fructification. It is about sun-rise that this vegetable fountain flows most copiously; the blacks and natives are then seen hastening from all quarters, supplied with large bowls to receive the milk, which grows yellow, and thickens at the surface.

THE MANCHINEEL TREE.

(Greig's World Displayed.)

THE Manchineel Tree is one of the most poisonous of vegetable productions. This tree is rather lofty and usually grows near water; it has the figure and appearance of the pear-tree; the wood is compact and heavy, covered with a smooth bark; the fruit is like a fig or pear, containing a very hard kernel in which are five or six seeds, each in a different cell. In all parts of the tree, on an incision being made, there is found a milky juice, which is a very subtle poison, and renders the cultivation of this tree, or even the coming near to it, very dangerous; one cannot sleep with safety under its shade, as the water which drops from its leaves after rain blisters the skin. The poison is collected in shells placed under the tree, where incisions have been made. It was used by the original natives for poisoning their arrows, and is said to keep its quality 100 years.

Salt applied immediately is an infallible cure for this poison when introduced by a wound.

THE CEDAR AND CEIBA TREE.

(Winterbotham's America.)

OF timber trees their are great variety, of a quality not inferior to any in the world; and as there are a variety of climates in the country, every one produces a kind of wood peculiar to itself. There are whole

woods of cedars and ebonies, vast quantities of agallo chum, or wood of aloes; besides others valuable on account of their weight, durability and hardness, or for their being easily cut, pliable, of a fine colour, or an agreeable flavour. There are also in Mexico innumerable trees remarkable for their size. Acosta mentions a cedar, the trunk of which was sixteen fathoms in circumference; and Clavigero mentions one of the length of one hundred and seven Paris feet. In the city of Mexico he mentions very large tables of cedar made out of single planks. In the valley of Atlixco is a very ancient fir tree, hollowed by lightning, the cavity of which could conveniently hold fourteen horsemen; nay, we are informed by the archbishop of Toledo, that in 1770 he went to view it along with the archbishop of Guatimala, at which time he caused an hundred young lads to enter its cavity. Our author mentions some other trees, of the species called ceiba, which for magnitude may be compared with this celebrated fir: "The largeness of these trees," says he, "is proportioned to their prodigious elevation, and they afford a most delightful prospect at the time they are adorned with new leaves and loaded with fruit, in which there is inclosed a particular species of fine, white, and most delicate cotton: this might be, and actually has been, made into webs as soft, delicate, and perhaps more so than silk; but it is toilsome to spin, on account of the smallness of the threads, and the profit does not requite the labour, the web not being lasting. Some use it for pillows and mattresses, which have the singular property of expanding enormously when exposed to the heat of the sun. De Bomare says, that the Africans make of the thread of the ceiba that vegetable taffety which is so scarce, and so much esteemed in Europe. The scarcity of such cloth is not to be wondered at, considering the difficulty of making it. The ceiba, according to this author, is higher than all other trees yet known.

PART III.—CHAP. III.

AMERICAN BEAUTIES.

Sublime and Interesting Views and Prospects, Buildings, Bridges, &c.

How swells the enraptured bosom, while the eye
Wanders unsated with delight from shade
To shade, from grove to thicket, from near groups
To yon primæval woods with darkening sweep
Retiring; and with beauty sees the whole
Kindle, and glow with renovated life!
Man loves the forest. To the general flame
My breast is not a stranger. I could rove
At morn, at noon, at eve, by lunar ray,
In each returning season, through your shades,
Ye reverend woods! could visit every dell,
Each hill, each breezy lawn, each wandering brook,
And bid the world admire; and when at last
The song were closed, each magic spot again
Could seek, and tell again of all its charms.

GISBORNE.

SUBLIME VIEWS AND PROSPECTS.

THERE is something truly sublime, says Mrs. Wright, in the water scenery of America; "her lakes, spreading into inland seas,—their vast, deep, and pure waters, reflecting back the azure of the heavens, untainted with a cloud; her rivers collecting the waters of hills and plains interminable, rolling their massy volumes for thousands of miles, now broken into cataracts to which the noblest cascades of the old hemisphere are mere rivulets, and then sweeping down their broad channels to the far-off ocean the treasures of a world. The lakes and rivers of this continent seem to

despise all foreign auxiliaries of nature or art, and trust to their own unassisted majesty to produce effect upon the eye and the mind; without alpine mountains or moss-grown ruins, they strike the spectator with awe. Extent, weight, depth—it is by these intrinsic qualities that they affect him; their character is one of simple grandeur; you stand upon their brink, or traverse their bosom, or gaze upon their rolling rapids and tumbling cataracts, and acknowledge at once their power and immensity, and your own insignificance and imbecility. Occasionally you meet with exceptions to this rule. I recall at this moment the beautiful shores of the Passaic; its graceful cascades, its walls of rock, shelving into a glassy peaceful flood, its wooded hills, and rich and varied landscapes, all spread beneath a sky of glowing sapphires; a scene for Claude to gaze upon. These north-western waters, however, have nothing of this character; you find them bedded in vast level plains, bordered only by sable forests, from which the stroke of the axe has but just startled the panther and the savage.

VIEW NEAR QUEENSTON, UPPER CANADA.

(Howison's Sketches.)

"THE environs of Queenston are beautifully picturesque and romantic, and nothing can be finer than the prospect upon the Niagara River. Immediately above the village its channel narrows very much, and the banks rise to the height of three hundred feet perpendicular, while at the same time they become wild and rocky, and are thickly covered with trees of various kinds. In some places they partly over arch the river, and throw an appalling gloom upon its waters, now dashed into turbulence and impetuosity by the ruggedness of their sloping bed. It was night when I first viewed this scene, and as the moon gradually rose, she threw a broken light successively upon different portions of the stream, and sometimes brought to view the foamy bosom of a rapid, at other times unveiled the struggling and heaving waters of a whirlpool, while the mingled roar, on all sides, excited a shuddering curiosity about those parts of the river that rolled along in darkness.

r the precipice, on the summit of which I stood I contemplated this scene, many of the American s had rushed at the close of the battle of Queens- ights. They were so warmly pressed by our troops e Indians, and had so little prospect of obtaining r from the latter, that a great number wildly flung elves over the steep, and tried to save their lives ching hold of the trees that grew upon it; but were frightfully dashed to pieces by the rocks, and who reached the river perished in their attempts m across it. Several, who had dropped among ffs without receiving any injury, were afterwards xed and killed by falling upon their own bayonets, in the act of leaping from one spot to another. I imagined I saw these unfortunate men writhing in agonies of a protracted death, and gazing with t their companions, who were convulsively catch- breath among the sullen waters below. Were the ians inclined to be superstitious, they could not a more suitable place than this for the haunt and ance of unearthly beings. The wildness of the y, the gloom of the cliffs, and the melancholy in- I have just related, would subject Queenston s to the suspicion of any people more under the ice of imagination than the Canadians are, and them conjure up half a dozen bleeding sentinels at of the precipice, every night after sun-set.'

VIEW AT CARACCAS.

(Humboldt's Personal Narrative.)

de Humboldt remained two months at Caraccas, where he and M. Bonpland lived in a large house highest part of the town. From a gallery they survey at once the Silla, the serrated ridge of the ano, and the charming valley of the Guayra, the ltivation of which, forms a pleasing contrast with omy curtain of the surrounding mountains. In asons of drought, and in order to improve the age, the savannas and the turf that covers the t rocks, are set on fire. These vast conflagra-

tions, viewed at a distance, produce the most singular effects of light. In a dark night, for instance, wherever the savannas, following the undulating slope of the rocks, have filled up the furrows hollowed out by the waters, the inflamed land appears like currents of lava, suspended over the valley. Their vivid, but steady, light assumes a reddish tint, when the wind, descending from the Silla, accumulates streams of vapour in the low regions. At other times this aspect is still more solemn; these luminous bands, enveloped in thick clouds, appear only at intervals, where it is clear; and as the clouds ascend, their edges reflect a splendid light. These various phenomena, so common under the tropics, become still more interesting from the form of the mountain, the disposition of the slopes, and the height of the savannas, covered with Alpine grasses. But during the day, the wind of Petare, blowing from the east, drives the smoke towards the town of Caracas, and diminishes the transparency of the air.

But above all the appearances in the heavens that of the southern constellations is the most striking and impressive upon the common observer. M. de Humboldt asserts, that from the time he entered the torrid zone, his party were never weary with admiring every night the beauty of the southern sky, which, says he, as we advanced towards the south, opened new constellations to our view. "We feel an indescribable sensation when approaching the equator, and particularly on passing from one hemisphere to the other, we see those stars which we have contemplated from our infancy, progressively sink, and finally disappear. Nothing awakens in the traveller a livelier remembrance of the immense distance by which he is separated from his country, than the aspect of an unknown firmament. The grouping of the stars of the first magnitude, some scattered nebulæ, rivalling in splendour the milky way, and tracts of space remarkable for their extreme blackness, give a particular physiognomy to the southern sky. This sight fills with admiration, even those, who, uninstructed in the branches of accurate science, feel the same emotion of delight in the contemplation of the heavenly vault, as in the view of a beautiful landscape.

or a majestic site. A traveller has no need of being a botanist to recognize the torrid zone, on the mere aspect of its vegetation; and without having acquired any notions of astronomy, without any acquaintance with the celestial charts of Flamstead and De le Caille, he feels he is not in Europe, when he sees the immense constellation of the Ship, or the phosphorescent clouds of Magellan, arise on the horizon. The heaven and the earth, every thing in the equinoctial regions assumes an exotic character.

We saw distinctly, for the first time, the cross of the south only, on the night of the 4th and 5th of July, in the sixteenth degree of latitude; it was strongly inclined, and appeared, from time to time, between the clouds, the centre of which, furrowed by uncondensed lightnings, reflected a silver light.

The pleasure we felt on discovering the southern cross, was warmly shared by such of the crew as had lived in the colonies. In the solitude of the seas, we hail a star as a friend, from whom we have been long separated. Among the Portuguese and the Spaniards, peculiar motives seem to increase this feeling; a religious sentiment attaches them to a constellation, the form of which recalls the sign of the faith, planted by their ancestors in the deserts of the new world.

The two great stars which mark the summit and the foot of the cross, having nearly the same right ascension, it follows that the constellation is almost perpendicular at the moment it passes the meridian. This circumstance is known to every nation that lives beyond the tropics, or in the southern hemisphere. It has been observed at what hour of the night in different seasons the cross of the south is erect, or inclined. It is a time-piece that advances very regular near four minutes a day; and no other group of stars exhibits to the naked eye, an observation of time so easily made. How often have we heard our guides exclaim, in the Savannas of Venezuela, or in the desert extending from Lima to Truxillo, "Midnight is past, the cross begins to bend."

VIEW AT MEXICO.

(*The same*)

OLD Mexico is a city that attracts the notice of Europeans from its curious situation, as well as from the remembrances attached to its name. It is placed on a plain, the height of which above the bed of the sea is 6,900 feet, near the banks of the lakes Tezcuco and Chalco, which are about ninety miles in circumference; the waters of the latter are salt, of the former fresh: they communicate with each other, and contain only two sorts of fish, one of which is of a very peculiar organization.

The city, at a distance, appears to rise from the waters of the former lake; the banks of which are beautified with the most enchanting village. On the opposite side of the lake a luxuriant and highly-cultivated valley is contrasted with the towering summits of the enormous mountains, emitting flame and smoke, in regions where eternal snow and winter reigns. This extensive plain is covered with flax, hemp, cotton, tobacco, sugar, indigo, &c.; and furnishes the markets of the city with abundance of vegetables, meat, fruits and poultry, and reaches to the mountains, whose bases repose on its bosom. These mountains are diversified into every form that imagination presents, and are clothed with cedars, shrubs and plants, and contain precious jewels and minerals in their bowels. The plain extends on all sides of the city, and of the lakes Tezcuco and Chalco; but on the eastern side of the latter it is not so prolific, owing to the saline exhalations from the waters. On the lower parts of the mountains are seen farms, country-seats, and romantically situated cottages; and the whole plain appears well watered by numerous canals and rivulets. Near the suburbs, to the north of the town, is the promenade, or Alameda; it is surrounded by a rivulet, and is in the shape of a large square, with a basin of water and fountain in the centre. From this basin eight walks strike out, each bordered by two rows of trees; there are also several other public walks, but the ground, in the immediate neighbourhood of Mexico is full of rivulets and canals, and rather swampy.

About a league from the city is seen the rock of the warm baths.

The village of Trespana appears in the view, and is also a place of great resort, the air being thought very wholesome and pure. On the hill in the environs, where there was formerly a palace of Montezuma, is the great aqueduct of Chapultepec, which conveys water to the city; in length it is about 9,000 feet. The water of thi is, however, not so pure as that of the aqueduct of Sant a Fe, which is 38,000 feet in length, and which runs along the Alameda, but is not considered so beautiful a structure as the former, as the water is not conveyed the whole way over arches.

The surrounding scenery of Mexico is in all respects highly beautiful and singular; from it are seen the summits of some of the loftiest mountains of North America, and the varied foliage of the cypress, the avenues of elms and poplars, which branch to the city from all quarters, the gardens of oranges and European fruits, the deep verdure of the plain, the golden tint of the ripening corn, and the different shades of the various Mexican plants, convey, through the medium of a pure and cerulean atmosphere, the utmost delight to the eyes of the beholders. The valley in which the city and its neighbourhood rests, is filled with villages and towns, and surrounded with enormous masses reposing on the great plain; two of which, Popocateptl and Iztaccihuatl, are the most remarkable of the group; the first is continually vomiting fire and smoke, though covered with snow. The Pico de Orisaba is also visible, and forms a grand feature of the scene. On the west of the city the chain is very high and continuous.

SCENERY AMONG THE CORDILLERAS.

(Letters from Paraguay.)

THE writer observes, "we now came to a valley among the Cordilleras of about a mile and a half in diameter, surrounded on all sides by stupendous rocks, forming altogether an enchanting amphitheatre. On entering it, the eye was struck with the view of a scene

that beggars all description: an evergreen plain so delightfully intermixed with odoriferous plants, shrubs, and flowers, that we might have fancied our arrival in a Mahometan paradise. In the centre of this fairy land rise several fountains, which threw their water into the air to a surprising height, when they formed by their fall a thousand meandering streams, which, after repeated windings and turnings, united in one stream pouring into a large river about half a mile distant. This delightful scenery occupied all my thoughts for some time, even after I had reached St. Jago, for I had taken up and brought safely with me four most beautiful shrubs, such as I had never seen before, and all of them in full bloom.

This interesting writer describes other scenery equally worthy of attention.

"The passage of the Cordilleras, whence 200 rivers run, affords some information more new to us than the common-place descriptions of the difficulties of their precipitous tracts. The river Mendoca, from which the city receives its name, takes its rise in the Eastern part of the Cordilleras, from which it descends, increasing as it falls, by many small rivulets; and the rapidity with which it descends, has enabled it to force a passage of about sixteen feet wide, through a mountain of chalk making a sort of arched cave, the roof of which forms a bridge of nearly the same breadth as the aperture: immediately under the bridge, at about twenty feet from the top of the arch, upon an horizontal plane, out of a smooth rock, rise five different fountains of extremely hot water, possessing many medicinal virtues: the water is thrown up as high as the top of the arch, when, as it falls, it mingles with the river, from which the moment before it had seemed to rise. The combat of those opposite waters on the humidity of the air above, produces the most beautiful chrystallization, in almost every kind of figure the imagination can possibly conceive: from between the larger objects are continually falling drops as big as hazel nuts, which resting on the bed of rock below, presently become petrified, and present to the eye one of the most extraordinary pictures that nature in all her varieties has, perhaps, been known to display

to the eye of the painter, or to reward the researches of the natural philosopher.

BRAZILIAN SCENERY.

(Brackenridge's Voyage.)

"TO describe the richness, variety, and beauty of nature as she appears in these countries, is impossible. Nothing so much strikes the stranger with wonder, as the luxuriant garb with which the earth is clothed in tropical climates; he sees plants and trees entirely new to him, or the few that he has known rising here to a gigantic size; shrubs have become trees, and humble herbs enlarged to shrubs. He sees here in their native splendour, those productions of the vegetable kingdom, which he was accustomed to admire in hot-houses. Among the most conspicuous are the palms, of many different kinds, the opuntia, and others so often described by travellers in these regions; pyramids of the most beautiful flowers, besides a number of aromatic plants, shed a delightful fragrance; and, as if nature was not satisfied with the exuberance of the earth, a numerous race of parasites attach themselves to the boughs and trunks of trees, receiving their nourishment from the air. The whole forms a solid perennial impenetrable mass, bound together with innumerable vines or creeping plants.

Nature seems no less prolific in animated creatures—birds of the most brilliant plumage and the most melodious song—thousands of insects of the most beautiful colours fill the thickets.

The scenery around the bay, is like that on the borders of some extensive lake; on the eastern side, instead of the immense mountains which enclose it on every other, the country is beautifully sloping, and with the aid of a spy-glass we could discover plantations of coffee, or cotton, on a much larger scale than any we had seen in the course of our walk. Towards the north-east, at a great distance, we could discern the Organ mountains, so called from a number of singular peaks, apparently at the termination of the ridge from their

unequal elevation, and resembling huge basaltic columns. The bay, or rather lake, was studded with a great variety of beautiful islands, one of them, perhaps the largest, several leagues in circumference. A number of small villages could be distinguished at intervals, and the water prospect was enlivened by a great number of vessels of different kinds."

Mr. Brackenridge notices another scene of a very different character, and contrary to every law of nature or humanity. "Below the landing at Rio there is a fountain of fresh water, conveyed hither for the aqueduct, which is constantly surrounded by a crowd of noisy negroes waiting for their turn. I saw about twenty of these miserable wretches *chained together by the neck*, and each one carrying a bucket of water on his head: they relieved the bodily pain or suffering, by a kind of harsh noise, not unlike that made by a flock of wild geese. I saw others hitched to carts or carrying burthens, and all screaming in the same style, producing a general effect, of which I can convey no idea."

BUILDINGS AND BRIDGES.

IN a new country like that of North America, it would be unreasonable to expect to find Buildings of extraordinary magnificence or taste. As nations rise in importance, or increase in wealth and luxury, the ornamental arts receive patronage and encouragement.—The attention of the people of the United States, has till recently been so generally engrossed with the idea, that Independence and Wealth are the sole requisites for comfort and happiness; that Dr. Mc. Murtrie, of Louisville, one of their own writers has been induced to remark, "to know how to make money is the grand object, if a man knows that, he knows every thing that needs to be learned here, all else is deemed superfluous; and were the arts and sciences to appear in the streets, in the persons of Phidas, or Aristotle, Canova, or Newton, clothed in the garb of poverty, they would be jostled into the kennel." There are, however, many exceptions to be made, and individuals of taste, enterprise,

and liberality, are to be found in every city of eminence throughout the union.

The City Hall of New York, we have previously noticed (*Page* 62.) which is considered, by many, the first building in America.

On the Southern Continent, the zeal, assisted by the great Wealth of the Spanish Roman Catholic Colonists, has raised Churches and Buildings of the most costly, and superb description.

MOUNT VERNON.

UNITED STATES.

(Janson's Stranger in America.)

TRAVELLERS, whose only business is to view the country, and make observations on the manners of the people, generally visit Mount Vernon, once the favorite retirement of General Washington, on their progress through the United States. A description of this place by various writers is already before the public, but a correct view is difficult to be found. There is nothing very striking in the design or execution of the building, but the situation, commanding an extensive prospect over the majestic river Potomac, where it is nearly two miles wide, added to the circumstance of its having been the seat of one of the greatest characters of the last century, renders it an object of attention. As a tribute of respect to his memory, vessels of war, and such as are armed, on passing, salute the house. The Mount Vernon estate is now in the occupation of Bushrod Washington, Esq. a nephew of the late general, and one of associate judges of the supreme federal court. The mount is two hundred yards above the level of the water, and the house stands within sixty yards of the verge, nine miles below Alexandria, and in Fairfax county, Virginia: it is 280 miles from the sea. In front there is a lofty portico, ninety-six feet in length, and supported by eight pillars. The rear is towards the river, and it is a pleasing relief to the eye of the passenger, wearied with the succession of woods that clothe its banks. On the other side is the state of Maryland, which renders the view from the mount more delightful. There are

two wings to the house, and on either side is a grove of trees, the choicest of the forest. The shrubberies and gardens are laid out in the English style, and through them wind serpentine gravel walks. There is a small park of deer, some of which were imported from England, and they entice the wild American herds into their company, so that they may easily be taken.

There is in the house only one large apartment, called the banqueting room, and this was finished after the general had converted his sword into a plough-share. During his absence it had fallen much to decay; devoting his whole time to the service of his country, for which he never would accept any remuneration, it was totally neglected.*

WASHINGTON CAPITOL.

THE SAME.

(Warden's America.)

THIS edifice will present a front of 650 feet, with a a colonnade of 260 feet, and 16 Corinthian columns 31½ feet in height. The elevation of the dome is 150 feet; the basement story 20; the entablement 7; the parapet 6½; the centre of the building, from the east west portico, is 240 feet. The ceiling is vaulted, and

* Throughout his campaigns he was attended by a black man, one of his slaves, who proved very faithful to his trust. This man, amongst others belonging to him, he liberated, and by his will left him a handsome maintenance for the remainder of his life. The horse which bore the general so often in battle is still alive, (1806). The noble animal, together with the whole of his property, was sold on his death, under a clause in his will, and the charger was purchased by Daniel Dulany, Esq. of Shuter's Hill, near Alexandria, in whom it has found an indulgent master. I have often seen Mr. Dulany, says Mr. Janson, riding the steed of Washington in a gentle pace, for it is now grown old. It is of a cream colour, and well proportioned.

the whole edifice is to be of solid masonry of hewn stone, which, in appearance, resembles that known by the name of the Portland stone. The centre, or great body of the building, is not yet commenced, but the two wings are nearly finished. The north wing, which contains the senate chamber, has the form of a segment, with a double arched dome, and Ionic pillars. It is adorned with portraits of Louis XVI. and Mary Antoinette. Under the senate chamber are commodious rooms for the library, and the judiciary courts of the United States. The south wing, containing the hall of representatives, and rooms for transacting business by committees, is of a circular form, adorned with twenty-four Corinthian pillars, behind which are galleries and lobbies for the accommodation of those who listen to the debates.

The foundation was laid in 1794, the north wing was finished in 1801, the south wing in 1807. The interior was originally of wood, which soon decayed; and to substitute stone, it became necessary to change the whole arrangement. This magnificent edifice is the joint composition of several artists; Thornton, Latrobe, Hallet, and Hatfield. From the Capitol there is a fine view of the river Patomac, of George town, and Alexandria.

The president's house consists of two stories, and is 170 feet in length, and 85 in breadth. It resembles Leinster-house, in Dublin, and is much admired. Even the poet Moore styles it a "grand edifice," a "noble structure." The view from the windows fronting the river is extremely beautiful.

In the summer of 1814, Washington was taken possession of by an English naval and land force, which set fire to the capitol, president's house, public offices, and navy-yard.

CATHEDRAL, &c. OF MEXICO.

(Smith's Wonders of Nature and Art.)

THE houses of Mexico are built of brick and stone, but not very high, the country being subject to earthquakes; and as all the edifices are very convenient, so some of them are very magnificent, especially the cathedral, which was sixty years in building, and is embellished with the finest painting, gilding, carving, and other ornaments. This structure, with the cloysters and dwellings of the clergy adjoining to it, takes up a large space of ground; and the revenues belonging to it are equal to the beauty and magnificence of the buildings. The high altar is said to have cost fifty thousand pieces of eight, each piece about four shillings and sixpence English; and the chalice for the ordinary service eleven thousand, being of gold enchased, and set round with rubies. There is also an image of the Virgin Mary, which is of massy silver, adorned with rubies and pearls to the value of thirty thousand pieces of eight, and which is annually carried in procession, when a certain number of maids draw lots, for three hundred pieces of eight for their portions.

Besides the cathedral there are about thirty other fine churches, twenty-two convents of both sexes, and several hospitals richly endowed. The revenue of the cathedral is at least seventy thousand pounds per annum, of which the archbishop has fifteen thousand, besides a great many fines and other perquisites.

The great square or market-place already mentioned, has a piazza on the side of it, under which are some of the richest shops in the world; and on the opposite side stands the magnificent palace of the viceroy, which was re-built in the year 1698, and whose principal front is not inferior to that of the palace at Naples, which it resembles, particularly in its noble stair-case, leading to a great number of beautiful apartments: and yet the archbishop's palace, which is built round like a theatre, is reckoned a more stately and elegant structure than that of the viceroy.

BRIDGES,

IN THE UNITED STATES.

(Various Authorities.)

THERE are several fine bridges across the Mohawk river. That of the Cohoes, completed in 1795, is 1100 feet long, 24 feet wide, 15 above the water, and rests on 13 stone pillars. The expence of building it was about 12,000 dollars. The Schenectady bridge, over the Mohawk, is nearly of the same length. The Cayuga bridge, across the mouth of the Cayuga Lake, destroyed by the ice, in 1807, was a mile in length, and cost 20,000 dollars. Across the Mohawk river, fifty miles above Schenectady, there is a bridge of one arch, of which the chord is 80 feet. Another at Utica, of a similar construction, 120 feet in length.

THE POTOMAC BRIDGE

was built under the direction of a company, or board of commissioners, and the funds were raised by a subscription consisting of 2000 shares, at 100 dollars per share. The expences of the work amounted to 96,000 dollars, and consequently the real value of a share was forty-eight. The bridge, which is covered with planks of white and yellow pine, is a mile in length, and is supported by strong piles, from eighteen to forty feet, according to the depth of the water.* A neat railing separates the foot from the horse-way. By means of a simple crank and pulley, the draw-bridge, for the passage of vessels, is raised by the force of one individual.

HAVERHILL BRIDGE,

is a noble structure of wood, consisting of three triple-framed arches, built on three strong piers of stone, and one abutment of the Bradford side; of a draw, near the Haverhill shore; a fourth pier; and a straight bridge, extending from that pier to the northern abutment. The three principal piers are each forty feet square; with a

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* This bridge was partially destroyed by the British, but has since been re-established.

defensive pier to each, extending fifty feet further up the river. The defensive pier is built of stone, with a casing of timber, fortified strongly at the ridge with iron. Each of these piers contains four thousand five hundred tons of stone. The fourth pier is wholly enclosed with timber, and filled with stones; and has a defensive pier annexed to it also. The draw is thirty feet in length; and is easily raised by means of a lever, elevated upon a post on each side of the draw. The bridge is connected and strengthened overhead by arches extended equally with those below, and united side to side. These arches are sufficiently elevated to allow the most bulky load to pass under them. The chord of these arches is one hundred and eighty-two feet, and the perpendicular height. There are two passages over the bridge: each fifteen and a half feet in the clear.

THE WIRE-BRIDGE, NEAR PHILADELPHIA,

is supported by six wires, each 3-8ths of an inch in diameter—three on each side of the bridge. These wires extend, forming a curve, from the garret windows of the wire factory to a tree on the opposite shore, which is braced by wires in three directions.

The floor timbers are two feet long, one inch by three, suspended in a horizontal line by stirrups, of No. 6, wire, at the ends of the bridge, and No. 9, in the centre, from the curved wires. The floor is eighteen inches wide, of inch broad, secured to the floor timbers by nails, except where the ends of two boards meet: here, in addition to the nails, the boards are kept from separating by wire ties. There is a board, six inches wide, on its edge, on each side of the bridge, to which the floor timbers are likewise secured by wires. Three wires stretched on each side of the bridge, along the stirrups, form a barrier to prevent persons from falling off. The floor is 16 feet from the water, and 400 feet in length.—The distance between the two points of suspension of the bridge is 408 feet.

The whole weight of the wire is.....	1314lbs.
——————————wood work	3380
——————————wrought nails	8
Total weight of the bridge	4702lbs.

Four men, it is said, would do the work of a similar bridge in two weeks of good weather, and the whole expence would be about three hundred dollars.

THE PRINCIPAL BRIDGE

in the United States, is said to be that which was built over Charles river, between Boston and Charleston, in the year 1786. This structure is fifteen hundred and three feet in length, being built on seventy-five piers, and having a draw of thirty feet in width. The abutment at Boston to the old landing is forty-five feet and a half, and that at Charleston, from the old landing is a hundred feet.

Each pier consists of seven sticks of oak timber, united by a cap-piece, strong braces, and girts; driven into the bed of the river, and secured by a single pile on each side, driven obliquely to a solid bottom. The piers are also connected to each other by large string pieces, covered with four-inch plank. The bridge has a gradual rise from each end, so as to be two feet higher in the middle than at the extremities: it is about forty-three feet in width, and on each side is a passage six feet wide, railed in, for the safety of foot passengers. Forty elegant lamps are erected at suitable distances from each other, to illuminate it when necessary.

The draw is constructed on a capital plan: the machinery is very simple, and it requires the strength of two men only in raising it. The floor on the bridge, at the highest tides, is four feet above the water, which generally rises about twelve or fourteen feet.

"This bridge," says Dr. Morse, "was completed in thirteen months; and while it exhibits the greatest effect of private enterprize within the United States, it is a most pleasing proof how certainly objects of magnitude may be attained by spirited exertions."

BUJUCO BRIDGES.

SOUTH AMERICA.

(Modern Travels.)

WHERE rivers are very narrow with high banks, the bridges constructed of wood, consist only of four long beams laid close together over the precipice,

and form a path about a yard and a half broad. Any of the natives, on foot or horseback, will pass these bridges without any apprehension. Where a river is too wide to admit of a beam laid across several bujucos, a kind of thin elastic cane, are twisted together, so as to form a large cable of the length required. Six of these are stretched from one side of the river to the other, two of which are considerably higher than the other four. On the lower, four sticks are laid in a transverse direction, and over these, branches of trees: the two uppermost are fastened to the others in the form of rails; as otherwise, from the continual swinging or oscillation, passengers would be exposed to no small danger. These bujuco bridges are only for men; the mules swim over the rivers; their burdens being taken off, they are driven to the water considerably above the bridge, in order to allow for their being carried a good distance down by the velocity of the stream. In the mean time the Indians carry over the loading on their shoulders.

Some rivers, instead of a bujuco bridge, are passed by what is called a *tarabita*. This machine carries over both passengers and and cattle; it is only a single rope made of bujuco, or of thongs of an ox-hide twisted together, about six or eight inches in thickness. This rope is extended across the river, and fastened on each bank to strong posts. On one side is a kind of wheel, or winch, to straighten or slacken the tarabita to the degree required. From the tarabita hangs a kind of leathern hammock, capable of holding a man, and suspended by a clue at each end.

A rope is fastened to each end of the hammock, and extended to both sides of the river, for drawing the hammock to the side intended. A push at its first setting off sends it quickly to the other side. Two tarabitas, one on each side of the river, are necessary for carrying over the mules, and the ropes are much thicker and slacker. The creature is suspended and secured by girths round the belly, neck, and legs. The mules, accustomed to be carried over this manner, never make the least motion; though it is with great difficulty they are at first brought to suffer the girths to be put round them.

AMERICAN VARIETIES.

Prevailing Religions, Singular Customs, Rare Phenomena of Nature, Remarkable Events, Mechanical Inventions, Extraordinary Men and Women, &c. &c.

——————————Sovereign Being!
Thy power all wise shines in the glitt'ring star,
Speaks in the thunder's desolating storm,
Or sparkles in the fructifying dew;
Is wafted on the soft odorif'rous breeze,
Or on tumult'ous tempests pinions borne,
O'er ocean's deep, or deserts vast:
Nor heard, in earthquake's all portentous roll,
More than in echo's imitative voice.
Nature INANIMATE resounds with thee,
While LIFE in state, or form unknown, or seen,
Proclaims an Infinite eternal God.

EDITOR.

PREVAILING RELIGIONS IN AMERICA.

(The Editor, assisted by several Authorities.)

RELIGION OF THE INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA.

ACCORDING to some, the Indians have the most sublime notions of the Deity: others find them grovelling in the basest superstition; and, if the suffrages were taken, we fear, that the latter would constitute the majority. 'The Indian,' says one, 'considers himself as a being created by an all-powerful, wise, and benevolent Manitto;* all that he possesses, all that he enjoys,

* 'Being or Spirit.'

he looks upon as given to him or allotted for his use, by the great Spirit who gave him life: he therefore believes it is his duty to adore and worship his Creator and Benefactor,' &c. But it is a little singular, that, when the Swedes first landed in Delaware, the natives gave the same name, Manitto, to a being, which is as far from being all-wise, as it is from being benevolent. 'Over against Poætquessingh,' says their historian,* there useth a sort of fish there with long great teeth, which the Indians call *Manitto*, that is, the devil: he plungeth in the water very much, and spouts the water up as a whale, and the same sort is not seen or found elsewhere in the river.' The truth is, the Indians have some vague idea of a being, who is far superior to themselves; but their ideas are too apt to become definitive, at the appearance of any extraordinary phenomenon.

The Delawares are said to have preserved an account of what befel their ancestors, when the first Dutch ship arrived at Manhattan Island. They saw it at a distance, and took it to be the great Manitto. 'Every measure was taken to be well provided with meat for sacrifice. The women were desired to prepare the best victuals. All the images or idols were examined and put in order, and a grand dance was supposed not only to be an agreeable entertainment to the great being; but it was believed, that it might, with the addition of a sacrifice, contribute to appease him, if he was angry with them. The conjurors were also set to work, to determine what this phenomenon portended, and what the possible result of it might be. Distracted between hope and fear, they were at a loss to know what to do. A dance, however, commenced in great confusion. While in this situation fresh runners arrive, declaring it to be a large house of various colours, and crowded with living creatures.' Individuals who have sought to exalt Natural Religion, and to debase Christianity have been loud in their panegyrics on the Indian Religion, as being pure and genuine Deism; but those who have visited and become best acquainted with the savage tribes, affirm, "that the general religion of the American Indians, is

* Holm.

some species of idolatrous worship of the sun, moon, or stars; while others choose their idols from among plants, serpents, and quadrupeds. They have some confused notions of a future state, and have had the tradition of an universal deluge, and other circumstances connected with the Mosaic account of the creation, handed down to them, though they are strangely disfigured with other prejudices and fables.

ANCIENT RELIGION OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN INDIANS.

The Mexicans worshipped thirteen deities: the Creator; Tezcatlipoca, or *ever-young*, and supreme agent under the Invisible Creator. They adored the sun, the moon, and the god of the air; Haloc, who was god of water, harvests, and of the household; the god and goddess of hell; the god of night; Mexitili, the god of war, the chief and most generally adored; Hatecolototl, or the rational owl, or evil god, who was worshipped from fear. They had many inferior gods, which may be said to have answered to the tryads, naiads, &c. of the Greeks and Romans. These gods were all composed of clay, wood, stone, gold, silver, copper, and even gems. The figure of Mexitili, was however said to be made of seeds fastened together with human blood. Two high priests held the principal situations in the kingdom; in fact, they may be said to have governed it. The CREATOR was not worshipped under similitude, neither were there any temples dedicated to him. They believed that the souls of the brave upon their death would be admitted into the blissful regions of the sun, where they would remain 4 years, and that then they would return to the earth under the form of beautiful birds. The souls of the meaner class were supposed to pass into the bodies of inferior animals, but the spirits of those who died by any kind of accident, went immediately into an elysium inhabited by those of the little children. They also had their Tartarus, which they called Mictlan, for the souls of the wicked.

The Mexicans were cruel and sanguinary. At the dedication of their principal temple in Mexico, which

was very superb, 70,000 victims are said to have been immolated by order of the monarch Ahuitzotl.

This dreadful sacrifice took place in the year 1486, and at the completion of another in 1487, another holocaust of human victims took place. This last year was marked by a terrible shock of an earthquake, which threatened to shake the now splendid city of Mexico to its foundation.

Of CHRISTIAN sects, the Catholic is the predominant in South America, scarcely any other being known.

PRESENT PREVAILING RELIGIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The principal religious denominations in the United States are—Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Friends or Quakers, Methodists, Baptists, German Lutherans, Dutch Reformed, Roman Catholics, Moravians, Mennonists, Jumpers, Universalists, and Shakers. If the whole population were divided into twelve parts, three of these would be Calvinists, chiefly of the Congregational and Presbyterian sects; two Baptists; two Methodists; one Episcopalians and Lutherans; the rest include persons of many various forms of belief, and a considerable number who follow *no* religious profession.—Of the

CONGREGATIONALISTS,

a few years since, there were 1000 congregations in New England,* and 200 in the middle and southern states, with 120 ministers and candidates for the ministry. Each church chooses its own minister, but is associated with others for mutual advantage, and the termination of disputes. Meetings are held for this purpose twice a year.

PRESBYTERIANS.

In the year 1810 there were 772 congregations of Pres-

* By the year 1642 (22 years from the landing of the pilgrims at Plymouth) there had been settled in New England 77 ministers, who were driven from the parent country, 60 towns and villages had been planted, and 30 or 40 churches gathered.

byterians, with 434 ministers, and a number of licentiates. This denomination prevails in the middle and southern states. Their highest ecclesiastical court is styled the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, under which are synods, presbyteries, and church sessions. In 1810 there were five synods and thirty-six presbyteries. At Princeton there is a theological school for Calvinists, well endowed, with a good library.

THE EPISCOPALIANS,

before the revolution, were obliged to send their preachers to England for ordination, at the average expence of £100 Sterling each. Dr Chemeler, in his appeal to the public in behalf of the Church of England in America, stated, "that, of fifty-two who went home for orders, only forty-two returned in safety, owing to sickness, or the accidents of the voyage." In the year 1808 the number of Episcopalian churches in New England was 65, that of ministers, 48; in the middle states, 68 churches, and 66 ministers; in the southern, 105 churches, and 101 ministers; in all, 238 churches, and 215 ministers. The churches are under the general direction of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which is composed of two houses; the one of bishops, the other of delegates, consisting of clergymen and laymen.

OF THE QUAKERS*

or Friends there were about 400 congregations some years ago, and chiefly in the middle states. In the northern there are few, except in Rhode Island. In North Carolina there is a Quaker settlement at New Garden, and congregations at Pasquotank and Wood creek.

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* In 1656, the Quakers making their appearance in Massachusetts, the legislature of that colony passed severe laws against them. No master of a vessel was allowed to bring any one of this sect into its jurisdiction on penalty of £100. Other still severer penalties were inflicted upon them in 1657, such as cutting their ears, and boring their tongues with a hot iron, &c. They were at length banished on pain of death, and four, refusing to go, were executed in 1659.

METHODISTS.*

The number of Methodists is nearly 200,000. They are more numerous in the middle and southern than in the northern states. Their churches are associated under the title of the United Societies of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The whole country is divided into religious districts and circuits; the former under the direction of a presiding elder, the latter under the inspection of an itinerant preacher; both of whom are appointed at the annual conference. It is believed this denomination is increasing very rapidly.

BAPTISTS.†

In the year 1793, there were 45 Baptist associations in the United States, 1032 churches, 1291 ministers, and 73,471 members. In May 1817 the general convention of the Baptist denomination in the United States held their first triennial meeting at Philadelphia; and in their report the number of churches and of members was thus estimated—2727 churches; ministers, 1936; members in fellowship, 183,245. In the state of New York the number of churches was 321, of members, 23,558; in Kentucky, 421 churches, and 22,432 members; in Georgia, 202 churches, and 16,834 members; in Virginia, 314 churches, and 11,838 members.

LUTHERANS.

In the states of New York and Pennsylvania, the Lutherans, chiefly of German origin, have a hundred congre-

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* Methodism was introduced into the United States, about the year 1783, under the direction of the Rev. John Wesley. This denomination increased rapidly in the Middle States, and, in 1789, they amounted in the United States, to about 50,000. Infidelity lost ground, and public worship was more punctually attended, than during the war.

† The first Baptist church in America was formed at Providence, 1639. Their sentiments spreading into Massachusetts, in 1651, the general court passed a law against them, inflicting banishment for persisting in the promulgation of their doctrines.

gations; the German Calvinists nearly the same number. Several of the clergymen of this denomination have distinguished themselves by their literary and scientific attainments; the late Dr. Muhlenburg of Lancaster, as a botanist, Dr. Kunzie of New York, as an oriental scholar and mathematician, Mr. Melsheimer of Pennsylvania, as an etymologist.

THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH,

under the name of the Reformed Synod of New York and New Jersey, consists of about eighty congregations. The canons of Dordrecht are adopted as a rule of discipline, and the Hiedelburg Catechism as the rule of faith.

ROMAN CATHOLICS.

This denomination is more numerous in Maryland* and in Louisiana than in any of the other states. The Roman Catholics of Maryland are chiefly of Irish, those of Louisiana of French origin. Some years ago, the number in Maryland was 75,000. In Baltimore there is an archbishop and four bishops, and three churches; in Boston, a church and a bishop; in New York, two churches and a bishop; in Philadelphia, four churches and a bishop; in Bardstown, one; in Kentucky one; in Louisiana, one, with two canons, and twenty-five curates, who receive each about 500 dollars a year.

MORAVIANS,

or United Brethren.—In the year 1788 the number of this denomination was about 2000. Their principal establishments are at Bethlehem and Nazareth in Pennsylvania, at Hope in New Jersey, and at Wachovia, on the Yadkin river, in North Carolina. In the last state they purchased 100,000 acres of land from Lord Granville. They are styled the United Brethren of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

At Bethlehem, in Pennsylvania, the Moravians have a large society, occupying a number of farms. There is a great hall in which all daily assemble for the

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* The Roman Catholics first came to America in 1632: they settled in Maryland, and now constitute a respectable and numerous portion of the inhabitants of that state.

purpose of public worship. The single men and women have each a separate dwelling. The latter are occupied in various domestic employments,—in fancy and ornamental works, and occasionally in musical practice under the direction of a superintendent. The walls of the large hall where the society dine are adorned with paintings, chiefly Scripture pieces, executed by members. Various branches of trade and manufacture are carried on, the profits of which go to the general stock, from which all are supplied with the necessaries of life. Their whole time is spent in labour and in prayer, except an hour in the evening, which is allotted for a concert. Marriage is contracted in a singular manner. The young man who has an inclination to marry makes application to the priest, who presents a young woman designated by the superintendent as the next in rotation for marriage. Having left the parties together for an hour, the priest returns, and if they mutually consent to live together, they are married the next day; if otherwise, each is put at the bottom of the list, containing, perhaps, sixty or seventy names, and, on the part of the girl, there is no chance of marriage, unless the same young man should again feel disposed for matrimony. When united, a neat habitation, with a pleasant garden, is provided, and their children, at the age of six, are placed in the seminary. If either of the parents die, the other returns to the apartment of the single people. In the Moravian establishment there is a tavern with large and excellent accommodations. There are Moravian establishments also in South Carolina, at Bethania, Salem, and other places on the Moravian branch of the river Yadkin.

UNIVERSALISTS.

It would be impossible to form an estimate of the numbers of this denomination, for, as in Great Britain, they are found in every Christian community. They are denominated Universalists from having adopted the idea of a UNIVERSAL RESTORATION of all lapsed intelligences; supposing "that if all the families of the earth are to be blessed in Christ, then God will not contend forever, neither be always wroth; that he does not *willingly* grieve or afflict any; *but of necessity*, both *must*, and *will* punish sinners with *few* or *many* stripes, according to

their different *degrees of* guilt and incorrigibility: that Christ will restore all lost in Adam, finally make an end of sin, destroy the works of the devil, and establish an Universal Kingdom of righteousness and peace." There have been many churches formed in the United States of Christians adopting this opinion, but the majority of believers deem the sentiment one of that nature which a Christian may believe, and still hold communion with any other particular sect. They form two divisions; viz. Calvinistic Universalists, and Arminian Universalists.

SHAKERS.

The first of this sect came from England in 1774. Their number is inconsiderable. Their principal establishments are at Nisqueunah, and New Lebanon, in the state of New York; at Enfield, in Connecticut, and at Canterbury, in New Hampshire.

In the great house at LEBANON there are near an hundred; the men live in their several apartments on the right as they enter the house, and the women on the left, commonly four in a room. They kneel in the morning by the side of the bed as soon as they rise, the same before they lay down; also before and after every meal. The brethren and sisters generally eat at the same time, at two long tables placed in the kitchen, men at one and women at the other; during which time they sit on benches and are all silent. They go to their meals walking in order, one directly after the other; the head of the family or elder takes the lead of the men, and one called Sister Elder takes the lead of the women! Several women are employed cooking and waiting upon the table; they are commonly relieved weekly by others. It is contrary to order, for a man or women to sleep alone, but two of the brethren sleep together, and the sisters the same. It is contrary to order for a man to be alone with a woman, also to touch one another. If a man presents any thing to a female, or a female to a man, due care must be taken by each not to touch the other. It is contrary to order for a woman to walk out alone, or to be alone. A man and a woman are not allowed to converse together, except in the presence of some of the brethren and sisters. They sometimes have what they

call union meetings, when several of the brethren and sisters meet together, sit and converse and smoke their pipes. If a man is on the road alone from home in a carriage, it is contrary to order for him to permit a woman to ride with him on any account whatever. It is contrary to order or the gift as they call it, to leave any bars down or gates open, or leave any thing they use out of its proper place, consequently they seldom have any thing lost. It is according to the gift or order for all to endeavour to keep all things in order. Indolence and carelessness, they say, is directly opposite to the Gospel and order of God; cleanliness in every respect is strongly enforced—it is contrary to order even to spit on the floor. A dirty, careless, slovenly or indecent person they say cannot travel in the way of religion. It is contrary to order to talk loud, to shut the door hard, to rap at the door for admittance, or to make a noise in any respect; even when walking the floor, they must be careful not to make a noise with their feet! They go to bed at nine or ten o'clock, and rise at four or five; all that are in health go to work about sun-rise; in-door mechanics in the winter, work by candle light; each one follows such an employment as the Deacon appoints for him. Every man and woman must be employed and work steadily and moderately. When any are sick, they have the utmost care and attention paid to them. If a man is sick, if there is a woman who was his wife before he believed, she in health, nurses and waits upon him. If any of them transgress the rules and orders of the Church, they are not held in union till they confess their transgression, and that often on their knees, before the brethren and sisters.

It is pleasing to observe, that there is in these SHAKERS a love of *good works* and a strain of fervent though misguided piety. It is an unfortunate circumstance, that the *Sect* rejecting *marriage* should take up its abode in the *United States* of America—a large Outline which wants *filling up*, and where POPULATION is one of its greatest blessings!

The *Shakers* are a compound of almost all the other sects. They are a kind of religious *Eclectics*—with this commendable trait, that they are enemies to every sort

of coercion in matters of religion. They have chosen what appeared to them to be *good* out of every denomination, but there may be reason to question the soundness of their judgment. Never before was there a people so singularly characterized—so unnaturally embodied. Warmth of feeling has been known to ascend in devotion, and sink into sensuality. But here are a people who profess such a height of spiritual mindedness, that they renounce the common passions of our nature. They sanction the entire separation of the sexes, a practice which, were it universally followed, would convert the world into a desert! Their religion is a kind of *Upas tree*, which suffers nothing to vegetate within its circumference.

THE TUNKERS,

a sect in Pennsylvania, took their origin from a German, who, weary of the busy world, retired to a solitary place about fifty miles from Philadelphia, where he formed a colony on a river named *Euphrates*. Their religious practices resemble those of the Quakers, none but those who feel the divine influence having a right to preach and exhort. The women live separate from the men, and never associate except for the purpose of public worship, or public business. Divine service is performed twice a day; and the whole time, except a few hours given to sleep, is spent in labour and in prayer. They hold as injurious the doctrine of original sin, and deny the eternity of future punishment; though they admit of a hell and a paradise. They believe that the souls of Christians are employed in the next world in the conversion of those who left this without enjoying the light of the Gospel.

In their conduct they show a stoical indifference to the good and evil of life. They never complain or retaliate, even when insulted or robbed of their property. The dress of both sexes consists of a long white hooded gown, a coarse shirt, and thick shoes. The men wear wide breeches resembling those of the Turks; and never cut the beard, which, in some, reaches to the waist. Their food consists of vegetables only, the produce of their own labour, which is deposited in a common stock for the wants of the society.

SANDEMANIANS.

Of this sect there is a small society at Portsmouth, in New Hampshire.

MENNONISTS,

Who derive their name from Simon Menno, a German Baptist, live in Pennsylvania. In the year 1770, their number amounted to 4000, forming thirteen churches, and forty congregations.

Although the spirit of religious intolerance had disappeared from the colonies, and the puritanical severity of the north had become much softened, yet, until the commencement of the French and Indian war, the religious character of the colonies had remained essentially the same.—But, during this war, infidelity was extensively introduced into the army, by means of the foreign officers and soldiers who were sent into the country.—From the army, it spread itself into society, and produced a considerable relaxation of morals, and a looser adherence to principles.

During the revolution, religious controversy was suspended, and bigotry softened.—That spirit of intolerance, which had marked some portions of the country, was nearly done away.

But, for these advantages, the revolution brought with it great disadvantages to religion in general. That vague atheism, which had been spread over France, was thickly sown in the American army, by the French; and uniting with the infidelity, which before had taken root in the country, produced a serious declension in the tone of religious feeling, among the American people.

In addition to this, religious institutions during the war were much neglected; churches were demolished, or converted into barracks; public worship was often suspended; and the clergy suffered severely, from the reduction of their salaries, caused by the depreciation of the circulating medium.

However the people of the United States heartily espoused the cause of the revolution in France, and sympathized with that people, in their struggle for freedom, it was but too natural, that the sentiments of the revolutionists, on other than the political subjects, should

be imbibed. As the French revolutionists were many of them deists or atheists, these sentiments were extensively spread over the United States.

Infidelity was also greatly extended at this time, by the writings of Paine and others, which were industriously circulated through the country.* The perspicuous and simple style of Paine, his keen powers of ridicule, directed against the Bible, and above all, the gratitude which multitudes felt for the aid his pen had given to the revolution, contributed to give him a peculiarly powerful influence.

Extraordinary revivals of religion have, however, subsequently pervaded the country, and have tended strongly to prevent open infidelity, and to check the tide of pollution, which was invisibly spreading over the land. Liberal and expanded plans have been devised and commenced for the promotion of christianity. Several excellent institutions founded, missionary and bible societies established, and a great call for ministers of the gospel has been heard.

At present, ministers of religion in proportion to the population, are no more than 3000 to 8 millions, which, allowing a regular pastor to every 150 families or 1000 souls, it appears that no fewer than five millions of persons are destitute of religious instruction. This fact speaks loudly in favour of religious establishments.

NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN CUSTOMS, &c.

GENERAL CUSTOMS.

(Sandford's History of the United States, printed at Philadelphia, 1819.)

IN their marriages, the Indians have nothing in common with civilized men. The contract generally begins, and ends, in mere convenience; or, if the parties are sometimes swayed by a more refined motive,

* An enormous edition was printed in France, and sent to America to be sold, for a few pence only; where it could not be sold it was given away.

there is so little in their habits to keep it alive, that one or two years are generally sufficient to dissipate the charm. The chief duties of the husband are, to provide a cabin, game, and utensils for cooking. The squaw tills their ground; fetches all their wood; and, when on a journey, transports all their baggage. It is considered as a privilege, that she can change husbands, when she pleases; but this is only the privilege of leaving one master, who has illtreated her, for another, who will treat her in the same manner. It *is* a privilege, however, that, when she quits her husband, the children follow her; for, as each person, whether old or young, receives an equal dividend of national property, the more numerous the family, the more easy are their circumstances.

Some authors represent the Indians as little superior to beasts of prey; while others make them the most innocent beings, on this side of Paradise. The former only look at their treatment of enemies; and the latter have an eye merely to their conduct towards friends, strangers, and each other. There is some truth on both sides of the picture. The Indians are as extreme in their benevolence, as they are extravagant in their cruelty. They can neither do too much for a friend; nor too much against an enemy. Many of the tribes were accustomed to set apart houses for the sole use of strangers; and, upon the arrival of a guest, a whole village contributed their efforts to give him fit entertainment.* Experience has taught each tribe, too, that nothing but the most perfect harmony among themselves,

* 'There is in every village of the Susquehanna Indians,' says Dr. Franklin, 'a vacant dwelling called the Stranger's House. When a traveller arrives within hearing of a village, he stops and halloos, for it is deemed uncivil to enter abruptly. Two old men lead him to the house, and then go round to the inhabitants, telling them a stranger has arrived fatigued and hungry. They send him all they can spare, bring tobacco after they are refreshed, and then ask questions whence they came and whither they go.'

will enable them to maintain their station, in the Indian commonwealth; and we have it from a white, who has been an Onondaga chief, for about forty years, that, during all that time, he has never seen one Indian give another an ill-natured word,—much less, a blow.

We are apt to forget, that, by the very nature of their society, they can have few occasions to quarrel. Whatever ferocity may be ascribed to their character, they must, at least, be acquitted of personal selfishness. There has been but one account of their liberality to those of their own kindred or tribe, since the continent was first discovered. 'I have always seen these people,' says Columbus, 'impart to each other whatever they had;' and one, who lives near a tribe, may daily witness the corroboration of his statement. Not only does their way of life create no necessity,— but it is so liable to change, and so little calculated for repose, that it produces no motive,—for the accumulation of private wealth. They are not ambitious of improvement; and know not what is meant by luxury. Their wants are few and simple; and, beyond the gratification of these, they can see no use in property. An Indian, it is said, was told, in answer to his question, that 'covetousness,' among white people, means, 'a desire for more than one has need of.' 'That's strange!' he replied, with a look that accorded with his language. Such ideas of property are little fitted to create disputes; for men, who can boast of civilization, may bear to be told, that the greater part of their own quarrels arise from disagreements concerning *mine* and *thine*.

Indian games are not numerous; and seem chiefly designed to render the combatants athletic and swift of foot. Some of the western tribes formerly had a play, which, for want of the appropriate name, we must call a *scramble*. A billet of wood, about eighteen inches long, made round, and polished very smooth, was sent to a great distance, by one of the chiefs: the younger lads of the tribe immediately started in pursuit of it: the fleetest runner was not always the stoutest wrestler: to get the billet was some merit; but to keep it, was a greater; and it was so slippery, that it changed hands, perhaps a thousand times, before the strongest proclaimed his victory.

But the most universal and most manly game, is that of ball. This is frequently played by several hundreds; and different tribes will sometimes play against each other. The ball is made of deer skin, stuffed with hair, and sewed with sinews. The sticks are from three to four feet long; and, being curved at the end, a web is made of thongs, for the purpose of catching the ball. The goals are two stakes, set in the ground, about six hundred yards apart. The ball is tossed into the air, at an equal distance from each; and the object is to throw it beyond the one, or the other. The parties enter upon the combat with great eagerness: the velocity of their movements is scarcely credible: the ball seldom touches the ground; but is seen constantly shooting into the air; and, while one is upon the point of hurling it in one direction, an antagonist strikes down his club,—catches the ball in his web, and sends it in another. 'They play with so much vehemence,' says a traveller, 'that they frequently wound each other, and sometimes a bone is broken; but notwithstanding these accidents, there never appears to be any spite or wanton exertions of strength to affect them, nor do any disputes ever happen between the parties.'

INDIAN WAR DANCE.

(Marsden's Journal.)

WHILE in Canandarqua, (says Mr. M.) Mr. Myron Holley introduced me to see a war dance of the Indians of the Oneida nation, who were then going to assist the American army, at the Niagara frontier: this shew of savage military tactics exceeded in sublimity of horror any thing that I had ever witnessed, and made me deeply deplore that civilized nations should resort to such barbarous allies as the Indians: the reader, who has never perhaps, seen an Indian, can scarcely imagine any thing more horrible than a number of these engaged in a war dance;—let him imagine 20 or 30 of these warriors half naked, painted in various forms, so as to increase an appearance of ferocity; their hair dressed in war style, and their arms covered with plates of brass

or silver; each with a scalping knife in his belt, and brandishing a tomahawk or small axe as bright as silver; a kind of gong is struck by one of them, which emits a dismal and unmusical sound, the whole number of warriors flourishing their tomahawks, set up the war whoop —a sound so terriffic and savage, that it cannot be heard without a chilling emotion of terror, that penetrates to the very soul; the rest consisted of running, springing, creeping, gnashing with the tomahawk, and scalping; all accompanied with such barbarous yells and ferocious looks, such writhing and twisting of the body and distortions of the countenance, that if a little colony of demons were to emigrate from the bottomless pit, their exhibition would hardly be more terrific.—Such is an Indian war dance, which, in fact, is no other than a real representation of their ferocious and inhuman mode of fighting; and yet these Oneida Indians have been somewhat civilized; have had Missionaries among them; and have, in a limited degree, learned the arts of agriculture.

INDIAN ANGER, REVENGE, & ELOQUENCE.

(Harris's Tour.)

AN occurrence, (says Mr. Harris, in his Journal, and of which he seems to have been witness,) has taken place, unpleasant in its nature, and at first threatening in its consequences the good understanding, if not the safety, of the whole body. Two Chippawa chiefs differing with each other, animadverted with some asperity on the part each took in the late war with England. One of them, fired at the idea of having reflections cast upon his honour, drew his knife, and in an instant buried it in the body of his brother chief.—Knowing the wound to be mortal, his anger was satisfied, and giving himself up to the friends of his victim, awaited with calmness his own death, then in all probability necessary to appease their spirit of revenge. The agent of government interfered, assembled the principal chiefs of the tribes with the relations of the deceased, and then offered to cover (as they term it) the body,

that is, by placing near it presents of cloth, silks, and various articles, till they were decided to be equivalent to the loss sustained. The agent opened the business, by an interpreter, to the Indians squatting on the ground before him in a semicircle; stating the object of the meeting, with his desire to mediate and preserve unity among them. On his concluding, a Shawanese stood up, a fine athletic expressive figure, and (as interpreted) thus spoke:—

"My red brothers, for brothers we are, and as brothers ought to be, we now meet in the presence of the Great Spirit whose we are, and whom we serve, on an occasion painful, and calculated to rouse our passions of animosity: but let us be cool, calm, collected; be thankful to the Great Spirit for inclining our Great Father (the President,) to offer mediation in our differences, to be solicitous for our welfare. Let us hear him, (pointing to the agent) consider well the counsel he has to give, that, if accordant with those principles of honour we have so proudly maintained, that sun may set without witnessing our hands imbrued in blood."

A general acclamation of applause was returned by his red brothers to this animated speech, of which you are here presented with a very imperfect idea. The intonation and attitudes in the delivery, your first orators need not have been ashamed to imitate. Several others stood up, exhibiting great strength of mind, and copiousness of idea, in their speeches, as well as a full conviction of a Supreme, and some faint conception of their duty to Him as his creatures. A Chippawa chief then rose, and addressed the agent to this effect:

"I believe I speak the sentiments of my nation, in thanking our great Father, whose representative you are, for his interposition with us this day: that sun is nigh setting, which, but for your interference, might have gone down upon our wrath; night, instead of removing, would have heightened our revenge, and tomorrow's sun had risen upon the murders of our tomahawks: but to you are we indebted for thus escaping the cries of blood. Before, our eyes were darkened by passion, we could not see; now we see. We had doubts as to the implication of our honour, and of our rights

as men ;—they are dispelled : and we now offer you our thanks for your friendly counsel and advice."

A burst of "Yogh! yogh! yogh!" from the band of warriors, testified their approbation of this elegant expression of their gratitude. An old squaw was then led forward, and having been deprived by this catastrophe of her only son, on whom she was partly dependent for support, having lost her husband in the war, she stated her willingness to adopt his murderer in his place. The mark of death was removed, and with the bow, the tomahawk, and the scalping knife of his victim, he entered upon his new relationship. The affair closed by the agent bringing forward the presents, and a request from one of the chiefs to be comforted with a little of their great Father's milk,* while watching through the night with the body of their deceased brother.

INDIAN REVENGE.

(Birkbeck's Letters.)

OUR frontier position, observes Mr. B., affords us many opportunities of obtaining information, which is highly interesting, on Indian manners and customs, from persons intimately acquainted with them by an intercourse of many years. Men who have fought with them and traded with them. A gentleman with whom I am in habits of frequent intercourse, a respectable neighbour of ours, has just returned from a trading expedition up the Red river, about seven hundred miles south-west of this place, among the Iotans, Cados, and Choctaws. He relates an event which occurred about Christmas last, at a place he visited, highly illustrative of the virtues and the vices of this untameable variety of the human family. Their simple necessaries of food and clothing are supplied as heretofore by the chase ; but the skins of the various animals they kill have acquired, since their intercourse with the whites, a new value, and *they* have acquired a taste for one fatal

* Whisky.

luxury, ardent spirits. For these they barter their skins and furs. They indulge in them to dreadful excess; and thousands on thousands perish through intoxication, and the frantic broils which it continually occasions. In one of these frays a Cado bit off the underlip of a Choctaw, both young men; the latter was so drunk, that he did not know who had been his antagonist: he lost his lip, got sober, and returned to the chase as usual. Some time after as he was attending his beaver-traps with a comrade of his own tribe, his companion divulged the secret, and told the name of the Cado who had disfigured him.

The Choctaw could not sustain the disgrace when vengeance was practicable. He immediately sold his whole property, his beaver-traps, his rifle, and his horse; for these he obtained forty bottles of whisky. Thirty-nine bottles he consumed with his friends, Iotans, Cados, and Choctaws, indifferently, in a grand debauch which lasted a week; but reserved one bottle secreted for a special purpose. After this, when again sufficiently sober, he joined a party, among whom was his devoted foe—fell upon him with his knife, and dispatched him. He then coolly took from his pouch some red paint, and smeared himself with it preparatory to his death, which was a matter of course, as blood must be avenged by blood, saying he should be ready to die by ten o'clock the next day, but he wished to be shot by one of his own nation. The Cados were merciful; they told him he should not be shot by one of them, but by one of his own tribe, a friend of his own selection. He chose his friend, and he desired them to accompany him to a certain spot in the woods: they did so, and he directed them to dig a grave for him there. The next day he was missing: they sought for him at the appointed hour, and found him sitting at his grave, his bottle of whiskey by him. He drank a part of it, and told them he was ready. His friend was also ready. He kept his seat, and holding up his arm, pointed to the place on his side where the ball should enter. The friend took aim—the gun missed fire: he gave a slight start, but said nothing. Again he raised his arm—again the gun snapped: he jumped up with

some exclamation, took another draught of whiskey, and seated himself in the same place. The flint being chipped and all ready, once more he presented his side, and the fatal ball sent this brave man to an untimely grave.

Some time after they were talking over the melancholy affair, and the *friend* declared he was glad to shoot him, for he was not his friend in reality. The spirit of savage justice was roused again: one of his companions immediately fired at him, but missed—thanks to the whiskey both for the danger and the escape. However they confined the *false friend* one whole week, whilst they sat in council on the case. At length he was acquitted for murder, and liberated, as he had only taken a devoted life, though with the heart of a traitor to his friend.

INDIAN CRUELTY AND ITS PUNISHMENT, BY THE HAND OF MRS. DUSTAN.

(Dwight's Travels.)

IN the year 1697, on the 5th day of March, a body of Indians attacked the town of Haverhill, burnt a small number of houses, and killed and captivated about forty of the inhabitants. A party of them, arrayed in all the terrors of the Indian war-dress, and carrying with them the multiplied horrors of a savage invasion, approached near the house of Mr. Dustan. This man was abroad at his usual labour. Upon the first alarm, he flew to the house, with the hope of hurrying to a place of safety his family, consisting of his wife, who had been confined a week only in child-bed, her nurse, a Mrs. Mary Teff, a widow from the neighbourhood, and eight children. Seven of his children he ordered to flee with the utmost expedition in the course opposite to that in which the danger was approaching, and went himself to assist his wife. Before she could leave her bed, the savages were upon them. Her husband, despairing of rendering her any service, flew to the door, mounted his horse, and determined to snatch up the child, with which he was unable to part, when he should overtake the little flock. When he came up to them, about two hundred yards

agonising as Mrs. Dustan did, under the evils which she had already suffered, and in the full apprehension of those which she was destined to suffer, would have been able to act the part of nice casuists; and fewer still, perhaps, would have exercised her intrepidity. That she herself approved of the conduct, which was applauded by the magistrates and divines of the day, in the cool hours of deliberation, cannot be doubted. The truth is, the season of Indian invasion, burning, butchering, captivity, threatening, and torture, is an unfortunate time for nice investigation and critical moralizing. A wife, who had just seen her house burnt, her infant dashed against a tree, and her companions coldly murdered one by one; who supposed her husband, and her remaining children, to have shared the same fate; who was threatened with torture, and indecency more painful than torture; and who did not entertain a doubt, that the threatening would be fulfilled; would probably feel no necessity, when she found it in her power to dispatch the authors of her sufferings, of asking questions concerning any thing but the success of the enterprise.

But, whatever may be thought of the rectitude of her conduct, that of her husband is in every view honourable. A finer succession of scenes for the pencil was hardly ever presented to the eye, than is furnished by the efforts of this gallant man, with their interesting appendages. The artist must be destitute indeed of talents, who could not engross every heart, as well as every eye, by exhibitions of this husband and father flying to rescue his wife, her infants, and her nurse, from the approaching horde of savages, attempting on his horse to select from this flying family the child which he was the least able to spare, and unable to make the selection; facing, in their rear, the horde of hell hounds; alternately and sternly retreating behind his inestimable charge, and fronting the enemy again, receiving and returning their fire, and presenting himself equally as a barrier against murderers, and a shelter to the flight of innocence and anguish. In the back ground of some or other of these pictures might be exhibited, with powerful impression, the kindled dwelling, the sickly mother, the terrified nurse, with the new-born infant in her

arms, and the furious natives surrounding them, driving them forward, and displaying the trophies of savage victory, and the insolence of savage triumph.

INDIAN CRUELTY, AND THE INTREPIDITY OF MRS. HEARD.

(*The same*)

FROM the settlement of Dover until the year 1675, the planters appear to have lived, generally, in peace with the savages. In Philip's war,* several inroads were made upon the scattered settlements within the township. Some of the inhabitants were killed, and a few houses destroyed. In the year 1689, the Indians killed and captivated more than fifty of these people, and burnt some of their houses, together with the mills in the neighbourhood. On this occasion Major Waldron,

* During the concealment and abode at Hadley, of the two Proscribed Judges of Charles 1st. the most famous and memorable Indian war of New England took place. This was called King Philip's war. Philip was a powerful sachem, and resided at Mount Hope, in Rhode Island; where he was soon after this war put to death by Colonel Church. All the new frontier towns of New England were attacked, and Hadley was then exposed as a place of that description. The time the savages fixed upon to make the assault was while the inhabitants were assembled in the meeting-house to observe a fast-day; but fortunately it had been some time a custom for the men to attend public worship, armed. Had the town been taken, the discovery of Whalley and Goffe would have been inevitable. The men took up their arms, and attempted a defence, but were soon thrown into confusion, when (as it is related to this day) a stranger suddenly appeared among them, of venerable aspect, and different in his apparel from the inhabitants; who rallied, and disposing them in the best military manner, led them to the charge, routed the Indians, and saved the town. In the moment of victory their deliverer vanished. The inhabitants,

a celebrated partizan, of great bravery and reputation, who had been president of New-Hampshire, was betrayed and murdered. The Indians were professedly at peace with the English. With every appearance of good-will, a sachem, named Mesandowit, and two Indian women, applied to Major Waldron for permission to lodge in his house, which was fortified and garrisoned. They were accordingly admitted and hospitably entertained. The same night, while the family were asleep, these fiends opened the door. A body of their warriors, as had been preconcerted, immediately rushed in and forced the room in which this venerable champion, then eighty years of age, lay. He seized his sword and drove them out of the room. But one of them, who had stolen behind him, knocked him down with a hatchet. They then seated him in an elbow-chair upon a table; cut him across the breast and belly; severed his nose and ears, and forced them into his mouth; and finally, placing his sword under him as he fell, terminated his gallant and useful life. To finish the tragedy, they killed or captivated the rest of the family, and set the house on fire.

At this time, a Mrs. Heard, together with a daughter, three sons, and several other persons, was returning from Portsmouth. When they came near to Dover, they were alarmed by the noise of the firing, and the war-whoop. The anguish which they felt for their families induced them to advance farther up the river, and land one-fourth of a mile from Major Waldron's garrison. When they had become within sight of Mrs. Heard's house,

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unable to account for the phenomenon, believed that they had been commanded by an angel, sent from heaven for their protection.

This supposed angel was Goffe, who never before ventured from his concealment. Whalley was then in a state of second childhood. Such was their caution to prevent a discovery of their retreat, that the inhabitants never knew them, or who it was that so ably led them against the savages, until they both had paid the debt of nature.—*Janson's Stranger in America.*

garrisoned also, they saw lights in the windows, and ran to it for protection. They knocked and called, but no answer was given. One of the company, climbing the wall and looking over it, discovered an Indian at a small distance, with a musket in his hand. Exhausted and agonising, Mrs. Heard bade her children and companions make the best shift they could, while she herself sat down, to meet death on the spot. In a short time, however, she began to recover her strength and spirits, and betook, herself for safety to a thicket, about a furlong from the house. Here an Indian came up to her, with a pistol in his hand; looked at her, and without saying a word withdrew. A few minutes after he returned again, and again left her in the same manner. She then attempted to cross the river in vain, and, returning to her retreat, continued there until the savages decamped.

Having thus wonderfully escaped from destruction, she had the satisfaction to find her house preserved. It had been vigorously assaulted by the enemy; but it had, also, been bravely defended. It stood in the skirt of the town, nearest to the forest. By the prudence and heroism of this lady it was defended through a ten years' war. Though often and strongly solicited to place herself in security among her friends at Portsmouth, she determined to keep her station. How few men would have continued at this post of honour when pressed by such solicitation! Mrs. Heard was a woman of distinguished piety.

Shocking as the preceding narratives certainly are, they are exceeded by the following instance of horrid depravity, exemplified in the conduct of a *civilized* native of Canada.

"Mr. Long, who published a volume of Travels through N. America, about 30 years ago, after traversing a great extent of country, was compelled to winter among the Nipegon Indians. Here he found one Fulton, a trader, who had several Canadians as his servants. Being obliged to divide his men into two parties, which is called the cawway, or casting lots, which party shall hunt and fish, and which shall stay with the master, he did so accordingly. The fishing party consisted o

Charles Janvier, Francois St, Ange, and Louis Dufresne, all natives of Canada, who being provided with axes, ice-cutters, and fishing materials, set off, and at the expiration of eight days, arrived at a convenient place, where they built a hut, in which they lived for some time tolerably well; but fish failing them, and having no success in hunting, they were almost starved. In this situation, said the chief, the bad spirit had entered into the heart of Janvier, and he being the strongest man, supported hunger better than his companions, by which he was enabled soon after to effect a diabolical purpose he had formed of killing the first Indian who should come in his way, and which he had declared he would do. In the height of their distress, Janvier perceived a savage at some distance, with a load at his back, and instantly returning to the hut, told his poor dispirited partners of their approaching relief. They instantly got up, though very weak, and came out of the hut as fast as their feeble limbs would allow them. The Indian arrived, took off his load, which was only two otters, and two hares, and gave them to Janvier, who received them with great satisfaction; and when he had skinned them, boiled them in the kettle without cleansing them, so extreme was their hunger. This seasonable relief was soon devoured, and from the eagerness with which Janvier eat, and the satisfaction which appeared in his countenance when he looked at the savage, the men were in hopes he had forgot the rash determination he had formed, and flattered themselves his mind was not so depraved as to entertain a thought of doing an injury to the man whose timely assistance had saved their lives The next morning the Indian told them he was sorry he could not assist them further, having no ammunition, but that he was going to Mr. Fulton for a supply.

Janvier's heart being inexorable even to the kindness he had received, he desired the savage to assist him in placing a large log of wood on the fire, as his companions were unable to do it. The Indian cheerfully complied, and stooping to take it up, Janvier knocked him down with an axe, and dragged him to the door of the hut, cut him up, and with the most unfeeling barbarity, put as much of the flesh of his deliverer into the kettle

as he thought sufficient for a meal. When it was dressed, he compelled Francois St. Ange, and Louis Dufresne to partake of it, and obliged them to kiss the cross which hung at his breast, and swear by all the saints never to reveal the transaction; threatening at the same time, that if they did, they should share the same fate. Intimidated by his threats, and the certainty that he would fulfil them, they solemnly promised perfect compliance with his injunctions. Having overcome their first aversion, which extreme hunger had occasioned, they ate immoderately of the horrid meal, and soon after fell sick, with violent retchings. During their indisposition, they complained to each other softly, that it was eating the Indian's flesh that had occasioned their sickness: Janvier overhearing them, called them fools and rascals, and asked them if they were afraid the savage would come to life again; and with an insolent sneer desired them to tell him which they thought the best part of a man? The poor fellows only replied they were very sick and could not tell the cause. In a few days (having no other provision) the Indian was eaten up, and Janvier determined to have human flesh, if no other could be obtained. To this end he sought an opportunity to quarrel with St. Ange—Dufresne not daring to interfere in the dispute. Janvier, willing, however to appear as plausible in the eyes of Dufresne as possible, widened the breach very artfully, till pretending he was no longer able to contain his anger, asked Dufresne if he did not think St. Ange deserved the Indian's death, for daring to say he would reveal the circumstance he had so solemnly sworn to conceal. Dufresne, dreading the consequences of differing with him in sentiment, said he thought St. Ange was to blame; upon which reply, Janvier immediately struck him with axe, and killed him: he then cut him up, and boiled a part, of which he obliged Dufresne to partake, he not daring to shew any reluctance. Fortunately for Dufresne the weather became more moderate, and having caught plenty of fish, they proposed to return to their master. Janvier, intoxicated with the idea of his superiority, obliged Dufresne to drag him in an Indian slay to Mr. Fulton's house—a cruel imposition upon him, and a dreadful service to a weak, emaciated man! but

knowing he was unable to resist, he made a virtue of necessity, and obeyed the tyrant with seeming cheerfulness. On the journey he was frequently reminded of his oath, and the fatal consequences that would attend him if he should ever divulge the secret, which Janvier assured him would produce instant death.

Our readers probably will be happy to hear, that this genuine Son of Hell was brought by his master to confession, and from thence to condign punishment.

INDIAN GRATITUDE.

WE now change the picture, and from scenes of cruelty, turn to pleasing instances of better principles and feeling. The following is from President Dwight's Travels, from whose interesting Journal we have several times, previously, enriched this volume.

"Not many years after the county of Litchfield began to be settled by the English, a strange Indian came one day into an inn, in the town of Litchfield, in the dusk of the evening, and requested the hostess to furnish him with some drink and a supper. At the same time, he observed, that he could pay for neither, as he had had no success in hunting, but promised payment as soon as he should meet with better fortune. The hostess refused him both the drink and supper, called him a lazy, drunken, good-for-nothing fellow, and told him, that she did not work so hard herself to throw away her earnings upon such creatures as he was. A man, who sat by, and observed that the Indian, then turning about to leave so inhospitable a place, shewed by his countenance that he was suffering very severely from want and weariness, directed the hostess to supply him what he wished, and engaged to pay the bill himself. She did so. When the Indian had finished his supper, he turned to his benefactor, thanked him, and assured him that he should remember his kindness, and whenever he was able, would faithfully recompense it. For the present, he observed, he could only reward him with a story, which, if the hostess would give him leave, he wished to tell. The hostess, whose complacency had been recalled by the prospect of pay-

ment, consented. The Indian, addressing himself to his benefactor, said, 'I suppose you read the Bible.' The man assented. 'Well,' said the Indian, 'the Bible say God made the world; and then he took him, and looked on him, and say "it's all very good." Then he made light; and took him, and say 'it's all very good.' Then he made dry land and water, the sun and moon, and grass and trees; and took him, and looked upon him, and said, "it's all very good." Then he make beasts, and birds, and fishes, and took him, and looked on him, and say, "it's all very good." Then he made man, and took him, and looked on him, and say, "it's all very good." Then he made woman, and took him and looked on him, 'and he no dare say one such word.' The Indian having told his story, withdrew.

Some years after, the man who had befriended him, had occasion to go some distance into the wilderness, between Litchfield and Albany, then a frontier settlement, where he was taken prisoner by an Indian scout, and carried to Canada. When he arrived at the principal settlement of the tribe, on the southern border of the St. Lawrence, it was proposed by some of the captors that he should be put to death. During the consultation, an old Indian woman demanded, that he should be given up to her, that she might adopt him in the place of a son, whom she had lost in the war. He was accordingly given to her, and lived through the succeeding winter in her family, experiencing the customary effects of savage hospitality. The following summer, as he was at work in the forest alone, an unknown Indian came up to him, and asked to meet him at a place which he pointed out, upon a given day. The prisoner agreed to the proposal, but not without some apprehensions that mischief was intended him. During the interval, these apprehensions increased to such a degree, as to dissuade him effectually, from fulfilling his engagement. Soon after, the same Indian found him at his work again, and very gravely reproved him for not performing his promise. The man apologized awkwardly enough, but in the best manner in his power. The Indian told him that he should be satisfied, if he would meet him at the same place on a future day,

which he named. The man promised to meet him, and fulfilled his promise. When he arrived at the spot, he found the Indian provided with two muskets, ammunition for them, and two knapsacks. The Indian ordered him to take one of each, and follow him.—The direction of their march was to the south.—The man followed, without the least knowledge of what he was to do, or whither he was going; but concluded, that if the Indian intended him harm, he would have despatched him at the beginning, and that at the worst he was as safe where he was, as he could be in any other place. Within a short time therefore, his fears subsided, although the Indian observed a profound and mysterious silence concerning the object of the expedition. In the day time they shot such game as came in their way; and at night kindled a fire, by which they slept. After a tedious journey of many days, they came one morning to the top of an eminence, presenting a prospect of a cultivated country, in which was a number of houses. The Indian asked his companion whether he knew the ground. He replied eagerly, that it was Litchfield. His guide then, after reminding him that he had so many years before relieved the wants of a famishing Indian, at an inn in that town, subjoined, 'I am that Indian; now I pray you; go home.' Having said this, he bade him adieu; and the man joyfully returned to his own house."

INDIAN CHIVALRY.

(From an American Paper, 1823).

A very pretty anecdote is related of one of the Chiefs recently at the seat of government (the Pawnee). A squaw had been taken in one of the predatory parties of his tribe, and was condemned to the stake. The hour arrived, and she was bound, and waiting for application of the fatal torch to the pile, when giving vent to the generous emotion of pity which filled his breast, he rushed forward, unbound the victim, and bore her triumphantly off from her astonished tormentors. His countrymen, whose reverence for his bravery and rank in the tribe, prevented their opposition, not only forgave but applauded the noble act. But applause more flatter-

ing still waited upon the red hero of the forest. During the visit to Washington, the young ladies of Miss White's Seminary, as a testimony of grateful remembrance, presented this chief with a silver medal bearing the inscription commemorative of the chivalric philanthropy of the act above recited. The spectacle must have been singular and gratifying—to behold one of those whom we proudly call savages, receiving from the hands of our fair country women, a testimonial so flattering for an action which might shed additional lustre upon the most civilized hero.

AMERICAN METHODIST CAMP MEETING.

(Marsden's Journal.)

DURING my continuance at New York, says Mr. M. I had an opportunity of attending several camp meetings, and as the nature of these stupendous means of grace is not distinctly known, I will spend a few moments in making my readers acquainted with them.—Camp meetings are now a regular and orderly part of the Methodist economy in the United States; and one of the questions at the annual conference is, "when and where shall our next camp meetings be held?" hence, they are not as some in this country, suppose either disorderly or irregular, but wonderful means in the hands of God. The time and place being appointed by conference, it is next advertised from the pulpits, and as the day approaches, each of your friends asks you—"are you going to camp meeting." Great preparation is made, and much excitement prevails upon the occasion. The one held for the city and district of New York, is generally at Croton, about 40 miles up the Hudson river; a select part of the forest is chosen, rising like an amphitheatre: this is generally cleared from brush and sylvan rubbish, so as to have little but the grass beneath and tall trees waving above. At the appointed time, the trustees of the New York Methodist churches, delegate one of their body to attend and make the proper arrangements for the occasion. A number of tents are employed; sloops and small vessels are hired by the trustees, who charge each person a small piece of money for

his passage, and also debar improper persons from embarking: the joyful hour is at length arrived; the sloops are all freighted with the tents, camp meeting equipage, &c. and only waited the proper number of passengers: these crowd from every part of the city toward the well-known wharf. Some of the sloops have "camp meeting" waving on their colours; others have the words painted on boards, which they hang in the rigging. The people crowd on board, until each sloop above and below contains from three to four hundred persons: it is often the case that there are several local and itinerant preachers in each vessel, who regulate and lead the worship on board; for from the time they leave the wharfs until they arrive at the place, sometimes a period of seven or eight hours, singing, prayer, preaching, and exhortation, alternately follow each other in regular succession; and truly it is enlivening to a dull, and enchanting to a devout and well-tuned heart to sail along the silent and towering woods, singing the praises of God, and joining in the various exercises of religion; at a time too, when nature is in a state of beauty—the sun shining over your head, and the morning star irradiating the heart; this is certainly a combination issuing in much internal peace and harmony of soul.

When the vessels reach the select spot, the passengers hasten as quickly as possible to the camp ground. The tents are generally pitched in the form of a crescent, in the centre of which is an elevated stand for the preachers, round which, in all directions, are placed rows of planks for the people to sit upon, while they hear the word. Among the trees, which spread their tops over this forest-church, are hung the lamps, which burn all night, and give light to the various exercises of religion, which occupy the solemn midnight hours: as it was nearly eleven o'clock at night when I first arrived on the borders of a camp: I left the boat at the edge of the wood, one mile from the scene, though the sound of praise from such a multitude, and at such an hour, in the midst of a solitary wildness is difficult to describe; but when I opened upon the camp ground, my curiosity was converted into astonishment, to behold the pendent lamps among the trees; the tents half encircling a

large space; 4000 people in the centre of this, listening with profound attention to a preacher, whose stentorian voice and animated manner carried the vibration of each word to a great distance through the now deeply umbrageous wood; where, save the twinkling lamps of the camp; brooding darkness spread a ten fold gloom: all excited my astonishment, and forcibly brought before my view the Hebrews in the wilderness. But, to return, when the tents are pitched, the preachers stand raised; the carts, waggons, chaises, horses, &c. of those who come, all disposed round the outside of the tents; the preachers then go hand in hand, through the camp, singing some appropriate hymn.

The meetings generally begin on Monday morning, and on the Friday morning following break up; the daily exercises are carried forward in the following manner: in the morning, at five o'clock, the horn sounds through the camp, either for public preaching or prayer, this, with smaller exercises, or a little intermission, brings on the breakfast hour, eight o'clock; at ten the horn sounds for public preaching, after which, until noon, the interval is filled up with little groups of praying persons, who scatter themselves up and down the camp, both in the tents and under the trees.

I should have observed, that a female or two is generally left in each tent, to prepare the proper materials for dinner, which is always cold meats, pies, tarts, tea, &c. (the use of ardent spirits being forbidden,) and a fire is kept burning in different parts of the camp, where the water is boiled. After the afternoon preaching, things take nearly the same course as in the morning, only the praying groups are upon a larger scale, and more scope is given to animated exhortations and loud prayers; some who exercise on these occasions soon lose there voices, and at the end of a camp meeting many, both preachers and people, can only speak in a whisper. At six o'clock in the evening the horn summonses to preaching, after which, though in no regulated form, all the above means continue until morning; so that go to whatever part of the camp you please, some are engaged in them; yea, and during whatever part of the night you awake, the wilderness is vocal with praise. In the calm

and solemn hours of sleep, to hear amidst the deep silence of the wood, the gloom filled with hymns of piety to the God of love, is to a heaven aspiring soul, a spiritual luxury that cannot be described. I have, at one and two o'clock in the morning, gone from tent to tent, to observe what filled the hour, and but few engaged my notice, where the inmates were lying asleep upon the clean straw. I should have observed, that there is generally a partition or curtain between that part of the tent in which the men sleep, and that in which the women sleep; all things are done decently, and in much order; nor do I believe that there is a place in the world where wicked thoughts find such difficult access to the mind as at a camp meeting. I was, during the preaching of one forenoon, sitting musing at the foot of a tree, respecting the singularity of such a mode of worshiping God, when I fell into the following train of thoughts: God, thought I, might put them upon, instituting an ordinance that should bear some resemblance to the magnitude of the immense country where all nature is upon a scale of grandeur, rivers, mountains, forests, lakes, cataracts, all far surpassing those of any other country in the world. At the expiration of the allotted time the camp meeting is broken up, the process of which is as follows: there is a sacrament and lovefeast near the preachers' stand; the preachers then walk through the camp, singing a hymn; after this they stand in a line, and all the people walk round the camp singing, and as they pass the preachers, shake hands until the whole are passed, then the preachers ascend the stand, sing the parting hymn, and bid each other farewell in the presence of the whole camp. At this (Croton) camp meeting there were 20 preachers, 212 tents, and upon the most moderate calculation, not less than 40 or 50 carts, waggons, gigs, &c. on several of the days there were present about 6000 persons; the tents, reckoning 15 persons to each, contained 3180, but some of the tents had from 20 to 30 inmates.

During my visit to New York, the celebrated Dr. Rush died, deservedly esteemed and lamented as a great and good man: to the Africans he was a distinguished benefactor. Hence, in this city, they stand upon dig-

nified ground, having several good churches, and ministers of their own colour, chiefly through his former liberality to them, and his influence with others in their behalf. The funeral of this great physician and philanthropist, was one of the largest I ever saw, extending probably a mile in length, and attended by nearly a hundred coaches. One of his pupils related to me a singular anecdote respecting him:—he was at one time, attending his lectures, and remarked, that in one of them, he branched out upon a subject, which he (Dr. Sergent) had seen, more largely treated upon in a work of Mr. Fletcher's, and meeting with Dr. Rush, afterwards, my friend asked him if he knew the writings of Mr. Fletcher*—Ah! yes, replied the doctor, I know the writings of that great and good man well; before I read his works, I could not *pray* for *all men*, but he set me at liberty; and if I meet him in heaven, I will thank him, and say—"you Mr. Fletcher, gave me just views of God's love to the human family."

SOUTH AMERICAN CUSTOMS.

CUSTOMS OF THE ABIPONES.

(Dobrizhoffer's account of the Abipones.)

ABIPONIAN women, not content with the marks common to both sexes, have their faces, breast, and arms, covered with black figures of various shapes, so that they present the appearance of a Turkish carpet. The higher their rank, and the greater their beauty, the more figures they have; but this savage ornament is purchased with much blood and many groans. As soon as a young woman is of age to be married, she is ordered to be marked according to custom. She reclines her head upon the lap of an old woman, and is pricked in order to be beautified. Thorns are used for a pencil, and ashes mixed with blood for paint. The ingenious but cruel old women, sticking the points of the thorns

* Mr. Fletcher was vicar of Madely in Shropshire, one of the most humble, pious and useful men that ever lived, he died in 1785.—Ed.

deep into the flesh, describes various figures till the whole face streams with blood. If the wretched girl does but groan or draw her face away, she is loaded with reproaches, taunts, and abuse. "No more of such cowardice," exclaims the old woman in a rage, "you are a disgrace to our nation, since a little tickling with thorns is so intolerable to you! Do you not know that you are descended from those who glory and delight in wounds? For shame of yourself, you faint-hearted creature! You seem to be softer than cotton. You will die single, be assured. Which of our heroes would think so cowardly a girl worthy to be his wife? But if you will only be quiet and tractable, I'll make you more beautiful than beauty itself." Terrified with these vociferations, and fearful of becoming the jest and derision of her companions, the girl does not utter a word, but conceals the sense of pain in silence, and with a cheerful countenance, and lips unclosed through dread of reproach, endures the torture of the thorns, which is not finished in one day. The first day she is sent home with her face half pricked with the thorns, and is recalled the next, the next after that, and perhaps oftner, to have the rest of her face, her breast, and arms, pricked in like manner."

The Indians of Brazil and Paraguay formerly delighted in human flesh: —

"Many of them, after having been long accustomed to Christian discipline in our towns, sometimes confessed that the flesh of kine or of any wild animal tastes extremely fat and insipid to them, in comparison with that of men. We have known the Mocobios and Tobas, for want of other food, eat human flesh even at this day. Some hundreds of the last-mentioned savages fell suddenly upon Alaykin, cacique of the Abipones, about day-break, as he was drinking in a distant plain with a troop of his followers. An obstinate combat was carried on for some time, at the end of which the wounded Abipones escaped by flight. Alaykin himself and six of his fellow-soldiers fell in the engagement, and were afterwards roasted and devoured by the hungry victors. An Abiponian boy, of twelve years old, who used to eat at our table, was killed at the same time by these savages, and added to the repast, being eaten with the rest, but

an old Abiponian woman, who had been slain there with many wounds, they left on the field untouched, her flesh being too tough to be used.

DRESS AND MANNERS OF THE PRESENT INHABITANTS OF BUENOS AYRES.

(Adams's Modern Voyages.)

THE dress of the men is mostly an imitation of the French style before the revolution; the old Spanish garb being laid aside, except on occasions of ceremony, when the doublet, hose, and cloak, of party-coloured silk, with their usual appendages of fringe, lace, or ribbons, a feathered hat and a long sword, distinguishes the *hidalgos* and *cavalleros* from the community. The cloak, however, is very generally worn abroad, and small cutlasses or long knives, supply the place of the ancient toledo. The dress of the students at the university of Cordova is thus described: a doublet, hose and cloak of black cotton, a Genoese velvet hat, and shoes and stockings of silk, the former fastened with bunches of ribbon.

The ladies of Buenos Ayres are reckoned the most agreeable and handsome of all South America. An English traveller has not, however, considered them as equalling his countrywomen in beauty; yet the playful voluptuousness of their manners, conversation, and dress, contrasted with the gravity and taciturnity of the men, are described as calculated to please and designed to ensnare. Their usual dress is of light silk, and fine cotton, with a profusion of lace, which rather displays than conceals the contour of the bosom. No head-dress or cap confines or encumbers their long and flowing black hair. A petticoat that descends scarcely below the knee, is lengthened by folds of deep lace, which seldom hide from even view the gold fringe of their tasseled garters. At their assemblies, the brilliancy of their appearance excites admiration. A peticoat of various coloured taffeta, ornamented with gold lace, or fringe, richly tasseled, though carried down to the feet, is worn with sufficient art to conceal, and with sufficient address, at intervals, to display the shape of the leg, which

is encircled by a silk stocking, with a fanciful and luxuriant display of gold embroidery. Slippers of embroidered silk, or gold brocade, with diamond buckles or clasps, but unpleasantly high-heeled, and sometimes with heels of solid silver, adorn the feet. A kind of jacket of rich velvet is fitted tight to the shape, and laced or buttoned in front, with long points hanging down quite round the petticoat, and trimmed at the ends with pearl tassels. A cloak of gauze, or very fine cotton, hanging down to the ground, and occasionally fastened to the side by a clasp of jewels, is thrown over the shoulders, which would be otherwise wholly uncovered; as would also be the beauties of the bosom, but for the innumerable trinkets, jewels, necklaces, and crosses, with which its luxuriance is hidden; the principal of these is a large oval or round gold plate in the middle, connected with a broad ribbon that passes over the shoulders, and under the arms, and returning, forms a sash round the waist. A head-dress, consisting either of a handkerchief of gold gauze, with braids of diamonds, or of chains of gold, twisted in and out of their shining black hair, completes the attire of ceremony of a lady of rank.

The national dance of the *fandango* is as great a favourite here as in Spain, and the *calenda*, still more indecent, which has been introduced by the negroes from the coast of Guinea, has no less become the pastime of the Spanish inhabitants. At their assemblies, the etiquette of rank seems to be nearly abolished; all, provided they are not contaminated by negro or Indian blood, are admitted, and a good dancer of the fandango carries his recommendation to the first company in his heels. At their grand repasts, which are taken in the evening, and are profuse in the extreme, it is considered as genteel for every one to eat as much as possible, and the guests may likewise take away with them as much as they please, without derogating in the least from the rules of good breeding. In public companies the sexes intermingle, but in private, the men are not allowed to sit among the women, unless they are invited, and such a favour is considered as a great familiarity. From this restraint, however, ecclesiastics of all descriptions are

free. A priest, young or old, may enter a house at what time he pleases, go into whatever apartment he sees fit, and stay as long as he thinks proper They pass and repass perfectly at their ease. They form a considerable portion of all public assemblies, mix promiscuously in all societies, and appear to be the confidants of all.

When on horseback, the Spaniards wear the Indian *poncho* or cloak, which in shape is something similar to the smock-frock, of our farmers and carters. It is much more convenient than the common cloak: it secures the wearer from the rain, is not ruffled by the wind, and not only serves him for a coverlid at night, but also for a carpet when he rests in the fields. It is often adorned with costly embroidery, and those used by men of rank, sometimes cost from two to three hundred piastres.

CUSTOMS OF THE INHABITANTS OF JAMAICA.

(Stewart's View of Jamaica.)

"EVERY unmarried white man," observes Mr. S. "and of every class, has his black or his brown mistress, with whom he lives openly; and of so little consequence is this thought, that his white female friends and relations think it no breach of decorum to visit his house, partake of his hospitality, fondle his children, and converse with his *housekeeper*—as if that conduct, which they regarded as disgraceful in their own class, was not so in the female of colour. This profligacy is, however, less common than it was formerly; for, among the old creoles, a brown or sable favourite, and sometimes even a harem of these *ladies*, was considered as an indispensable appendage to the establishment of a married man. In no country, however, are examples of female infidelity more rare than in Jamaica. The wedded fair, with whatever lack of patience she bears the insult of an unfaithful partner, has too lively a sense of the enormity of his crime to resent it by retaliation.

If a gentleman pays his addresses to a lady, it is not thought necessary, as a homage to her delicacy, to get

rid, *a priori*, of his illicit establishment, nor is the lady so *unreasonable* as to expect such a sacrifice; the brown lady remains in the house till within a few days of the marriage, and, if she is of an accommodating disposition, even assists in making preparations for the reception of the bride; in which case there may be a tolerable good understanding between them, and the wife may even condescend to take in good part the occasional calls, inquiries, and proffered circumstances of the ex-favourite, and make suitable returns of kindness to her children."

In giving the character of the negro slaves, Mr. S. relates two pleasing anecdotes of negro gratitude and attachment, which we shall subjoin :—

"Soon after the breaking out of the insurrection in St. Domingo, when the unfortunate whites were every where hunted and massacred, and their dwellings given up to fire and pillage, a negro, who loved his master, hastened to him with the first intelligence of the revolt, and the imminent danger in which he stood; "but," said this faithful slave, "I will save you, or perish myself in the attempt." He immediately conveyed his master to a place of safety, where he could be concealed for awhile. In the dead of night he put him into a sack, and, placing him across a mule, conveyed him to some distance before dawn of day, and again concealed him in the cavern of a rock: at night he again renewed his journey; and in this manner did this faithful creature safely conduct his master a distance of an hundred miles, till he brought him to a navigable river, where he procured a canoe, and at night paddled it down with the stream, till he came to a post occupied by the whites, to whom he delivered his master in safety and unhurt.

The other instance occurred in Jamaica during the Maroon war, and is well attested by several respectable gentlemen, who were eye-witnesses of the transaction. During the ambuscade attack of the Maroons on Lieutenant-colonel Sandford's party of dragoons and militia, at a narrow defile leading from the New to Old Trelawny Maroon Town, a gentleman's negro servant, being close to his master, and observing a Maroon's piece levelled at him, he instantly threw himself between him and the

danger, and received the shot in his body. Happily it did not prove mortal, and the faithful slave lived to enjoy the well-earned fruits of his master's gratitude.

On new-year's-day, it is customary for the creole negro girls of the towns, who conceive themselves superior to those on the plantations, to exhibit themselves in all the pride of gaudy finery, under the denomination of *blues* and *reds*— parties in rivalship and opposition to each other. They are generally dressed with much taste, sometimes at the expense of their white and brown mistresses, who take a pride in showing them off to the greatest advantage. Their gowns are of the finest muslin, with blue or pink satin spencers, trimmed with gold or silver, according to their party; and gold necklaces, ear-rings, and other expensive trinkets, shine to advantage on their jet black skins. The most comely young negresses are selected, and such as have a fine and tutored voice; they parade through the streets, two and two, in the most exact order, with appropriate flags and instrumental music, accompanied by their voices, the songs being for the most part such as they have caught from the whites, and which they previously practice for the occasion. Each party has its *queen*, who eclipses all the rest in the splendour of her dress. Their appearance, upon the whole, is tasteful and elegant, and would somewhat astonish a stranger who had associated with the idea of slavery other images than those of gaiety and costly display.

RARE PHENOMENA OF NATURE.

RAINBOWS, METEORS, MOCK SUNS, &c.

(From Dr. Stearn's American Oracle.)

THE RAINBOW is a meteor of divers colours, occasioned by the refraction and reflection of the light of the Sun falling on the surface of the drops of rain.

There are two Bows, the internal, and external. The former is produced by two refractions and one reflection. The first refraction is of incident rays proceeding to one common point, from which they are reflected to another,

and from thence refracted a second time to another, which produces the various colours of the bow; as, the red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.

The external bow is produced by the reflection of the interior bow. The internal is the brightest, and the external the less brilliant.

The higher the sun is above the horizon, the lower will the bow be; but the lower the sun is, the more will the bow be elevated. Rain-bows often appear where great rivers fall down steep places with such rapidity as to raise a mist in the air.

A METEOR is an imperfect mixed body, consisting of vapours drawn up into the middle regions of the air: they appear in divers forms. Some meteors are very large, and make a tremendous noise like a clap of thunder, and even cause the earth to tremble. "We have had several in America," says Dr., S. "since my remembrance, that have made dreadful explosions: they were undoubtedly generated by such combustibles as produce the thunder and lightning; but, in general, they fly through the hemisphere without any remarkable report.

SUN-DOGS, called MOCK SUNS, because they resemble the sun, are two spots that frequently appear in a cloud when the sun shines through it, and when he is about 15 or 20 degrees above the horizon. We often see them in America, and they commonly precede a storm. Their colour is much like that of the rainbow, and their magnitude equal to that of the apparent solar disc. One is situated on the north, and the other on the south side of the sun. The refraction and reflection of the rays of light are the cause of these phenomena.

We have also circles round the sun and moon frequently in America, which appear something like the rainbow, but of a paler colour. These are occasioned by the refraction and reflection of the solar and lunar rays, and are signs of rain or snow.

A HURRICANE is a violent storm of wind; and a wind is a current or stream of air, as a river is a currert or stream of water. The blowing of the Wind arises principally from two causes, viz. from the rarefaction and elevation of the atmosphere by the heat of the sun, and the condensation and depression of the same by the cold.

Hence the air, where the sun is vertical, becomes the most heated and rarefied; and being thereby made lighter, rises upwards, and the cold air on either side rushes in to restore an equilibrium.

A WATER-SPOUT is a mass of water collected between a cloud and the surface of the sea, in the shape of a pillar of water. These spouts are frequent in the West-Indies; and ships that are near them are in great danger, unless the spouts are broken and dispersed by a shot from the cannon. Some have supposed that water-spouts are caused by sulphureous explosions bursting out under the sea; and perhaps that may be the cause sometimes. I do not remember that I ever saw above one water-spout, and that was extended to the clouds: I supposed it was occasioned by a whirlwind. It doth not appear to me, that such explosions are the cause of water-spouts in general; because they would send the water up in an instant, and then it would immediately subside, unless a stream of fiery matter should continue to issue from under the sea. Again, if a fiery explosion was the cause, I should think they would not travel from place to place, as the one did which I saw."

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING AT BARBADOES.

(Adams's Flowers of Modern Voyages.)

THE storms of rain and thunder in these regions exceed the comprehension of any European who never witnessed them. The thunder does not come in regular claps, but in one incessant roar, whilst the lightning is so vivid and incessant, that people may see to read or write in a dark room. The hurricane season, however, exceeds every thing besides. That which destroyed Bridgetown, in the year 1780, is still so deeply impressed upon the minds of the old inhabitants, that they shudder with horror at the very mention of it. Hundreds, too, who never bow the knee to their Creator all the rest of the year, appear in solemn procession at their respective churches on its anniversary. So completely was Bridgetown destroyed at that period, that it was with difficulty the scite of the houses could be

ascertained, as it was several hours occupied by the sea; and the number of lives lost never accurately known. It is at this time of the year, also, that the yellow fever generally shews itself, and happy is the European who can escape the contagion. In the months of October and November, 1807, nothing was to be seen but mourning families and funerals; when, as usual, the army and the navy suffered most.

To the wind that begins to blow in December, the appropriate name of *The Doctor* has been given, as at its approach the pestilence retires; and the languid patients no longer vexed with raging thirst, and a desire to lie quiet, begin to inhale new life and vigour. Here the uniform length of the day is from six in the morning till six in the evening. A stranger would be much surprised at the sudden disappearance of the light on the setting of the sun; for, as there is little twilight, in less than a quarter of an hour it becomes dark.

PHENOMENON OF THE CORDILLERAS.

(The same)

A SINGULAR optical phenomenon is seen by persons who visit the tops of the Cordilleras. The figure of the observer appears reflected upon the clouds, its head surrounded by concentric circles of the prismatic colours, making generally three circle irides, and at some distance, a fourth arch entirely white. This reflected figure moves in whatever direction the person of the observer does; but what seems most singular is, that when several persons are together, each one sees the phenomenon with regard to himself, but cannot perceive it as relating to others.

EARTHQUAKES, STORMS, &c. IN AMERICA.

EARTHQUAKE AT LIMA, &c.

(Winterbotham's America.)

EARTHQUAKES happen at Lima so frequently, that the inhabitants are under continual apprehensions of being, from their suddenness and violence, buried in

the ruins of their own houses: yet these earthquakes, though so sudden, have their presages, one of the principal of which is a rumbling noise in the bowels of the earth, about a minute before the shocks are felt, that seems to pervade all the adjacent subterraneous part; this is followed by dismal howlings of the dogs, who seem to presage the approaching danger. The beasts of burden passing the streets stop, and by a natural instinct spread open their legs, the better to secure themselves from falling. On these portents the terrified inhabitants fly from their houses into the streets with such precipitation, that if it happens in the night, they appear quite naked; the urgency of the danger at once banishing all sense of delicacy or shame. Thus the streets exhibit such odd and singular figures as might afford matter of diversion, were it possible to be diverted in so terrible a moment. This sudden concourse is accompanied with the cries of children waked out of their sleep, blended with the lamentations of the women, whose agonizing prayers to the saints increase the common fear and confusion. The men are also too much affected to refrain from giving vent to their terror, so that the whole city exhibits a dreadful scene of consternation and horror.

The earthquakes that have happened at the capital are very numerous. The first since the establishment of the Spaniards was in 1582, but the damage was much less considerable than in some of the succeeding. Six years after, Lima was again visited by another earthquake, so dreadful that it is still solemnly commemorated every year. In 1609 another happened, which overturned many houses. On the 27th of November, 1630, such prodigious damage was done in the city by an earthquake, that in acknowledgement of its not having been entirely demolished, a festival on that day is annually celebrated. Twenty-four years after, on the 3d of November, the most stately edifices in the city, and a great number of houses, were destroyed by an earthquake, but the inhabitants retiring, few of them perished. Another dreadful one happened in 1678; but one of the most terrible was on the the 28th of October, 1687. It began at four in the morning, and destroyed

many of the finest public buildings and houses, in which a great number of the inhabitants perished; but this was little more than a prelude to what followed, for two hours after the shock returned with such impetuous concussions, that all was laid in ruins, and the inhabitants felt themselves happy in being only spectators of the general devastation, by having saved their lives, though with the loss of all their property. During this second shock, the sea retiring considerably, and then returning in mountainous waves, entirely overwhelmed Callao, which is at five miles distance from Lima, and all the adjacent country, together with the miserable inhabitants. From that time, six earthquakes have happened at Lima previous to that of 1746. This last was one the 28th of October, at half an hour after ten at night, when the concussions began with such violence, that in little more than in three minutes, the greatest part, if not all the buildings in the city, were destroyed, burying under their ruins those inhabitants who had not made sufficient haste into the streets and squares, the only places of safety. At length the horrible effects of the first shock ceased, but the tranquility was of short duration, the concussions swiftly succeeding each other. The fort of Callao also sunk into ruins; but what it suffered from the earthquake in its building was inconsiderable, when compared to the dreadful catastrophe which followed; for the sea, as is usual on such occasions, receding to a considerable distance, returned in mountainous waves, foaming with the violence of the agitation, and suddenly buried Callao and the neighbouring country in its flood. This, however, was not entirely effected by the first swell of the waves, for the sea retiring farther, returned with still greater impetuosity, and covered both the walls and other buildings of the place; so that what even had escaped the first inundation, was totally overwhelmed by those succeeding mountainous waves. Twenty-three ships and vessels, great and small, were then in the harbour, nineteen of which were sunk, and the other four, among which was a frigate named St. Fermin, were carried by the force of the waves to a considerable distance up the country. This terrible inundation and earthquake extended to

other parts on the coast, and several towns underwent the same fate as the city of Lima, where the number of persons who perished within two days after it began, amounted, according to the bodies found, to one thousand three hundred, besides the maimed and wounded, many of whom lived only a short time in great torture.

EARTHQUAKE AT THE CARACCAS.

(Jamieson's Universal Science.)

ON the subject of earthquakes, the field of observation is both varied and extensive; but the scientific description of one is worth the detail of fifty, where the marvellous hath supplied knowledge, and fear has shrunk from the investigation of the causes that produce these phenomena.

There are few events in the physical world which are calculated to excite so deep and permanent an interest as the earthquake which destroyed the town of Caraccas in 1812, and by which more than 20,000 persons perished, almost at the same instant, in the province of Venezuela, in South America.

The 26th of March was a remarkably hot day. The air was calm, and the sky unclouded. It was Holy Thursday, and a great part of the population was assembled in the churches. Nothing seemed to presage the calamities of the day. At seven minutes after four in the afternoon the first shock was felt; it was sufficiently powerful to make the bells of the churches toll; it lasted five or six seconds, during which time the ground was in a continual undulating movement, and seemed to heave up like a boiling liquid. The danger was thought to be past, when a tremendous subterraneous noise was heard, resembling the rolling of thunder, but louder, and of longer continuance than that heard within the tropics in in time of storms. This noise preceded a perpendicular motion of three or four seconds, followed by an undulatory movement somewhat longer. The shocks were in opposite directions, from north to south, and from east to west. Nothing could resist the movement from beneath upward, and undulations crossing each other.

The town of Caraccas was entirely overthrown. Between nine and ten thousand of the inhabitants were buried under the ruins of the houses and churches. The procession had not yet set out; but the crowd was so great in the churches, that nearly three or four thousand persons were crushed by the fall of their vaulted roofs. The explosion was stronger towards the north, in that part of the town situated nearest the mountain of Avila, and the Silla. The churches of la Trinidad and Alta Gracia, which were more than 150 feet high, and the naves of which were supported by pillars of twelve or fifteen feet diameter, left a mass of ruins scarcely exceeding five or six feet in elevation. The sinking of the ruins has been so considerable, that there now scarcely remain any vestiges of pillars or columns. The barracks, called *El Quartel de San Carlos*, situate farther north of the church of the Trinity, on the road from the custom-house de la Pastora, almost entirely disappeared. A regiment of troops of the line, that was assembled under arms, ready to join the procession, was, with the exception of a few men, buried under the ruins of this great edifice. Nine tenths of the fine town of Caraccas were entirely destroyed. The walls of the houses that were not thrown down, as those of the street San Juan, near the Capuchin Hospital, were cracked in such a manner, that it was impossible to run the risk of inhabiting them.

Estimating at nine or ten thousand the number of the dead in the city of Caraccas, we do not include those unhappy persons, who, dangerously wounded, perished several months after, for want of food and proper attention. The night of Holy Thursday presented the most distressing scene of desolation and sorrow. That thick cloud of dust, which, rising above the ruins, darkened the sky like a fog, had settled on the ground. No shock was felt, and never was a night more calm or more serene. The moon, nearly full, illumined the rounded domes of the Silla, and the aspect of the sky formed a perfect contrast to that of the earth, covered with the dead, and heaped with ruins. Mothers were seen bearing in their arms their children, whom they hoped to recall to life. Desolate families wandered through the city,

seeking a brother, a husband, a friend, of whose fate they were ignorant, and whom they believed to be lost in the crowd. The people pressed along the streets, which could no more be recognised but by long lines of ruins.

All the calamities experienced in the great catastrophes of Lisbon, Messina, Lima, and Riobamba, were renewed on the fatal day of the 26th of March, 1812. The wounded, buried under the ruins, implored by their cries the help of the passers by, and nearly 2000 were dug out. Implements for digging, and clearing away the ruins were entirely wanting; and the people were obliged to use their bare hands to disinter the living. The wounded, as well as the sick who had escaped from the hospitals, were laid on the banks of the small river Guayra. They found no shelter but the foliage of the trees. Beds, linen to dress the wounds, instruments of surgery, medicines, and objects of the most urgent necessity, were buried under the ruins. Every thing, even food, was wanting during the first days. Water became alike scarce in the interior of the city. The commotion had rent the pipes of the fountains; the falling of the earth had choked up the springs that supplied them; and it became necessary, in order to have water, to go down to the river Guayra, which was considerably swelled; and then vessels to convey the water were wanting.

There remained a duty to be fulfilled towards the dead, enjoined at once by piety and the dread of infection. It being impossible to inter so many thousand corpses, half buried under the ruins, commissaries were appointed to burn the bodies: and for this purpose, funeral piles were erected between the heaps of ruins. This ceremony lasted several days. Amid so many public calamities, the people devoted themselves to those religious duties which they thought were the most fitted to appease the wrath of heaven. Some, assembling in procession, sung funeral hymns: others, in a state of distraction, confessed themselves aloud in the streets. In this town was now repeated what had been remarked in the province of Quito, after the tremendous earthquake of 1797; a number of marriages

were contracted between persons who had neglected for many years to sanction their union by the sacerdotal benediction. Children found parents by whom they had never till then been acknowledged; restitutions were promised by persons, who had never been accused of fraud; and families, who had long been enemies, were drawn together by the tie of common calamity. If this feeling seemed to calm the passions of some, and open the heart to pity, it had a contrary effect on others, rendering them more rigid and inhuman.

Shocks as violent as those which, in the space of one minute*, overthrew the city of Caraccas, could not be confined to a small portion of the continent. Their fatal effects extended as far as the provinces of Venezuela, Verinas, and Maracaybo, along the coast; and still more to the inland mountains. La Guayra, Mayquetia, Artimano, Baruta, La Vega, San Felipe, and Merida, were almost entirely destroyed. The number of the dead exceeded four or five thousand at La Guayra and the town of San Felipe, near the copper-mines of Aroa. It appears, that it was on a line running east north-east, and west south-west, from La Guayra and and Carraccas to the lofty mountains of Niquitao and Merida, that the violence of the earthquake was principally directed. It was felt in the kingdom of New Granada from the branches of the high Sierra de Santa Martha as far as Santa Fe de Bogota and Honda, on the banks of Magdelena, 180 leagues from Carraccas. It was every where more violent in the Cordilleras of gneiss and mica-slate, or immediately at their foot, than in the plains: and this difference was particularly striking in the savannahs of Varinas and Casanara. In the valleys of Aragua, situate between Carraccas and the town of San Felipe, the commotions were very weak: and La Victori, a Maracay, and Valentia, scarce-

* The duration of the earthquake, that is to say, the whole of the movements of undulation and rising which occasioned the horrible catastrophe of the 26th of March, 1812, was estimated by some at fifty seconds, by others at one minute and twelve seconds.

ly suffered at all, notwithstanding their proximity to the capital. At Valecillo, a few leagues from Valencia, the earth, opening, threw out such an immense quantity of water, that it formed a new torrent. The same phenomenon took place near Porto-Cabello. On the other hand, the lake Maracaybo diminished sensibly. At Coro no commotion was felt, though the town is situated upon the coast, between other towns which suffered from the earthquake.

Fifteen or eighteen hours after the great catastrophe, the ground remained tranquil. The night, as we have already observed, was fine and calm; and the commotions did not recommence till after the 27th. They then were attended with a very loud and long continued subterranean noise. The inhabitants of Caraccas wandered into the country; but the villages and farms having suffered as much as the town, they could find no shelter till they were beyond the mountains of Los Teques, in the valleys of Aragua, and in the Llanos or savannahs. No less than fifteen oscillations were often felt in one day. On the fifth of April there were almost as violent an earthquake, as that which overthrew the capital. During several hours, the ground was in a state perpetual undulation. Large masses of earth fell in the mountains; and enormous rocks were detached from the Silla of Caraccas. It was even asserted and believed that the two domes of the Silla sunk fifty or sixty toises; but this assertion is founded on no measurement whatever."

On the 7th day of June, 1692, the town of Port Royal in Jamaica, was in two minutes totally destroyed by an earthquake: Various instances of the destructive effects of this terrible phenomenon might be adduced, but the preceding have exceeded the limits assigned for this portion of our Museum.

HURRICANE AT MONTSERRAT.

(*Smith's Wonders of Nature & Art.*)

WE find nothing more remarkable relating to Montserrat, than the dreadful hurricane which happened there on the 29th and 30th of June, 1733, and blew down three fifths of the houses in the island. On

the 29th there were thirty-four wind-mills going, many of which were entirely destroyed. A large copper, that held two hundred and forty gallons, was carried over a high wall, and beat close together by the fall. An empty sugar hogshead was lifted off the ground by the wind, and carried thirty or forty yards over a dwelling-house. But, what is most surprising of all, a cattle-mill-house, weighing at least twenty thousand pounds, was carried some distance from its situation, and by the force of the fall was broken into innumerable pieces. Such havock was made among the sugar-canes, that some planters, who had a prospect of making two or three hundred hogsheads the next year, would gladly have compounded for sixty or eighty. In a word, the whole damage, exclusive of the shipping, was reckoned not less than fifty thousand pounds of their currency.

STORM IN NEW ENGLAND.

(Dwight's Travels.)

IN September 1815, at the equinox, a storm began, which lasted several days, and, in its ravages in several parts of New-England, was more violent and destructive than any other which is upon record.

It blew a fresh breeze from the north-east on Wednesday. On Thursday the wind increased to a hard gale, and, in the following night, became a furious tempest. Throughout New-England, and all the eastern parts of the state of New York, the rain fell in a deluge.

On Friday and Saturday, the storm blew with the greatest violence, particularly on the latter of those days, when, shifting to the south-east, and thence to the south-west, it became literally a hurricane. Its greatest fury was felt on the eastern coast from Portsmouth, and thence round on the southern to New London. Within these limits many buildings were blown down, and many tracts of forest levelled. Several churches were either wholly or partially destroyed. That at Plainfield, in Connecticut, particularly, was entirely ruined. At Andover, in Massachusetts, and various other places from twelve to sixteen miles from the coast, the rain was so brackish as to leave a thin covering of salt upon the windows; unless

this fact is to be attributed to the spray, forced from the surface of the ocean by the blast, and driven over the land in form of mist.

On Saturday, after the wind shifted to the south-east, the ravages on the southern coast exceeded every thing heretofore known in this country. Particularly from New Bedford to New London. At this time the waters of the ocean had been raised to a singular height, by the long continued violence of the north eastern blast, and, when it shifted to a southern direction, were driven upon the shore in a deluge. At Providence, where they were swollen to a still greater height by the narrowing of the river, and the consequent increased confinement of the shores, the shipping was almost entirely destroyed, or carried in upon the land. Several large ships were carried directly through the second story of the brick stores, standing on the margin of the harbour, and one was lodged in this situation. Others were left high up on the dry ground. Many buildings were destroyed; many more were greatly injured; an immense quantity of goods of various kinds was floated over the lower part of the town, and the scene of ruin was such as to beggar all description. Few lives were lost; yet many were in so much hazard, that their escape seemed miraculous.

The damage done to property was estimated at a million and a half of dollars."

Hurricanes are far more frequent on the southern than the northern Continent. The West India Islands are extremely liable to the visitation of storms, &c.

DEVASTATION OCCASIONED BY THE YELLOW FEVER, IN PHILADELPHIA, IN 1793.

(*Hardie's Philadelphia Directory.*)

THIS disorder occasioned great devastation in the year 1793, a short account of it may be acceptable to several of our readers, who, perhaps, have not had an opportunity of perusing the volumes which have been written on the subject.

This disorder made its first appearance towards the latter end of July, in a lodging house in North Water Street: and for a few weeks seemed entirely con-

fined to that vicinity Hence it was generally supposed to have been imported and not generated in the city. This was the opinion of Doctors Currie, Cathrall and many others It was however combated by Dr. Benjamin Rush, who asserts that the contagion was generated from the stench of a cargo of damaged coffee, which had been landed near the same place, where it first made its appearance, on a supposition that vegetable putrifaction might produce such a disorder.

But from whatever fountain we trace this poisoned stream, it has destroyed the lives of many thousands—and many of those of distinguished worth. Its characteristic or leading symptoms, were sudden debility in the voluntary powers, oppressive pain, giddiness, sense of fullness and distention in the vessels of the fore part of the head, and an oppressive weight about the heart and lungs, accompanied with great anguish, and restlessness. During the month of August the funerals amounted to upwards of three hundred. The disease had then reached the central streets of the city, and began to spread on all sides with the greatest rapidity. In September its malignance increased amazingly. Fear pervaded the stoutest heart: flight became general, and terror was depicted on every countenance. In this month 1400 more were added to the list of mortality. The contagion was still progressive, and towards the end of the month 90 and 100 died daily. Until the middle of October the mighty destroyer went on with increasing havoc. From the 1st to the 17th, upwards of 1400 fell as victims to the tremendous malady. From the 17th to the 30th, the mortality gradually decreased. In the whole month, however, the dead amounted to upwards of 2000—a dreadful number, if we consider that at this time near one half of the inhabitants had fled. Before the disorder became to terrible, the appearance of Philadelphia, must to a stranger have seemed very extraordinary. The garlic, which many chewed as a preventative, could be smelled at several yards distance, whilst others hoped to avoid infection by a recourse to smelling bottles, handkerchiefs dipped in vinegar, camphor bags, &c. so that few individuals could be seen in the streets without one or other of these applied to his nostrils.

At last, however, experience had proved that these were inefficacious. A reliance on divine providence succeeded, and in the most terrible stage of the disorder the citizens discovered the most decent fortitude and the greatest resignation. These imaginary preventatives were therefore thrown aside.

From the 1st to the 7th of November, the mortality gradually decreased. On the 9th, the burials which had hitherto been so exceedingly numerous were reduced to six. The fugitive citizens now began to return, and the streets resumed their wonted life and activity.

During this awful calamity, as has been already observed, terror and dismay generally pervaded the citizens. Some were found, however, who at the risk of their own lives, were highly instrumental in saving the lives of their fellow-creatures. An hospital was erected at Bushill, at the distance of about one mile from the inhabited part of the city. Thither the infected were sent in great numbers, but from a want of cleanliness and good order, the hospital and the grave were nearly the same thing.

A committee had been appointed to assist the guardians of the poor in the legal discharge of their duty. It was one of the first objects of their care to remedy this evil. To search into the horrors of this dismal receptacle, required the fortitude of a *Howard*. Men, however, stepped forth, and voluntarily undertook the arduous task *Stephen Girard*, a native of France, a wealthy merchant of this city, and *Peter Helm*, a native of Philadelphia, both members of the committee, offered their assistance. Thanks to Heaven! their invaluable lives were preserved, and their generous labours crowned with success. The poor now no longer considered Bushill as the anti-chamber of the grave; but as a humane provision for the necessitous and sick: and now many recovered.

So great a mortality, of course, left a great number of orphans in very destitute circumstances. Here again was a large field of labour open for the benevolent. The children were to be provided with nurses, provisions and other accommodations. The committee, however, to their former burthens undertook this, and procured

the Loganian library, which was fitted up as an orphan house, where about two hundred children were admitted, sixty of whom were infants

The accumulating expences of this institution, with that of Bushhlll, and many others, obviously required considerable sums of money. Liberal contributions were sent from different quarters amounting in the whole to 29,085 dollars.

During this melancholy period, the city lost ten of her most valuable physicians, and most of the others were sick at different times. The number of deaths in all, amounted to 4041."

Subsequent ravages of this terrible disorder, must be within the recollection of most of our readers.

MECHANICAL INVENTIONS PECULIAR TO AMERICA.

(*The Editor, and Select Authorities*)

SOME useful arts must be nearly coeval with the human race; for food, clothing, and habitation, even in their original simplicity require some art. Many other arts are of such antiquity as to place the inventors beyond the reach of tradition. Several have gradually crept into existence, without an inventor. The busy mind however, accustomed to a beginning in things cannot rest till it find or imagine a beginning to every art. Bacchus is said to have invented wine; and Staphylus the mixing water with wine; the bow and arrow are ascribed by tradition to Scythos, son of Jupiter, though a weapon all the world over. Spinning is so useful, that it must be honoured with some illustrious inventor: it was ascribed by the Egyptians to their goddess Isis; by the Greeks to Minerva; by the Peruvians to Mamma Ella, wife to their first sovereign Mango Capac; and by the Chinese to the wife of their Emperor Yao. We here may observe a connection of ideas; spinning is a female occupation, and it must have had a female inventor.

The Illinois are industrious above all their American neighbours. Their women are neat-handed: they

spin the wool of their horned cattle, which is as fine as that of English sheep. The stuffs made of it are dyed black, yellow, or red, and cut into garments sewed with roe-buck sinews. After drying the sinews in the sun, and beating them, they draw out threads as white and fine as any that are made of flax, but much tougher.

The pottery of the ancient Indians, was in many respects equal, if not superior to that of modern European manufacture. The Indians of Maypure, in South America, and the natives of Lousiana and Florida, are, at this period, celebrated for their ingenuity in the manufacture of a species of Delf ware; on which are painted the figures of Crocodiles, Monkeys, &c.

In MECHANICS the United States Americans have been particularly inventive. The number of patents issued at the patent office, from the 1st of January 1812 to the 1st January 1813, amounted to 285. The machinery of flour-mills has several ingenious contrivances not known in Europe. The machines for making cotton-cards, and for the manufacture of nails, are no less useful to the country than creditable to the inventors. The method employed of lighting the interior of American merchant vessels, and vessels of war, by means of cylinders of glass placed on the deck, is found to be very useful at sea. The American machinery for making boots and shoes by means of iron wire or nails is very ingenious; an idea may be formed of its economical advantages from the circumstance of its being able to furnish a pair of shoes in a quarter of an hour.

The STEAM-ENGINE of Evans, now employed in the United States, is considered both more economical and more simple than that of Bolton and Watt; but that of Perkins, should its pretensions be realized, will exceed every other, of this we shall probably speak in our succeeding volume ON EUROPE, as well as on the application of steam to the purposes of navigation.

The great number of rivers in the United States, and the great breadth and depth of these rivers, render the erection of stone bridges in general far too expensive for the means of a thin population. But the want of these has been extremely well supplied by wooden structures,

as previously described,* which are made so solid, durable, and even beautiful, as to answer every useful purpose. Very great mechanical skill has been displayed in this species of carpentry. The Schuylkill bridge is 550 feet long, 42 feet wide, and is supported by two solid piers 195 feet apart. The middle arch is 194½ feet; the smaller arches 150. The height, from the surface of the water to the carriage-way, is thirty-one feet. The breadth of the carriage-way is eight feet. This bridge, which was erected by a company, cost 300,000 dollars, and was finished in 1808. The Trenton bridge, across the Delaware, thirty miles above Philadelphia, was finished in 1806. It is a quarter of a mile in length, and thirty-six feet wide. The distance between the abutments is 1008 feet; the piers are of cut stone, and there are about 16,000 perches of masonry. The superstructure consists of five arches, or series of arches, each of five sections or ribs, rising from the chord line in the proportion of 13 to 100. The sections are formed of white pine plank, from thirty-five to fifty feet in length, four inches thick, and twelve inches wide, forming a depth of three feet. These sections leave a breadth of eleven feet on each side for carriages, and four and a half for foot passengers. The platform is suspended from wing arches by means of iron chains.

An invention, or rather establishment of the first utility, is

THE MERCHANT MANUFACTURING MILL,

at Louisville, in the state of Kentucky, described by Doctor M'Murtrie, and is remarkable, not only for its size and the quantity of flour it is calculated to manufacture when completed, but for the beauty of its machinery, which is said to be the most perfect of the millwright's abilities to be found in America or any other country. The foundations were commenced in June, 1815, and were ready to receive the enormous superstructure only in the spring of 1817. The building is divided into six stories, considerably higher than is usual, there being 102 feet from the first to the sixth.

* See page 215.

Waggons, containing the wheat or other grain for the mill, are driven under an arch, which commands the hopper of a scale, into which it is discharged and weighed, at the rate of seventy-five bushels in ten minutes; from this it is conveyed by elevators, to the sixth story, where, after passing through a screen, it is deposited in the garners; if manufacturing, from thence into a rubber of a new construction, whence it is conveyed into a large screen, and thence to the stones; when ground, it is reconveyed by elevators to the hopper boy, in the sixth story; whence, after being cooled, it descends to the bolting cloths, the bran being deposited in a gallery on the left, and the shorts in another to the right. The flour being divided into fine, superfine, and middlings, is precipitated into the packing chests, whence it is delivered to the barrels, which are filled with great rapidity by a packing press.

This noble and useful establishment is not yet finished, and has already cost its owner, Mr. Tarascon, 150,000 dollars, and when completed, it will manufacture 500 *barrels of flour per day*. Immediately above, is a line of mill seats extending 2,662 feet, affording sites for works of that description, which, if erected, would be able jointly to produce 2,000 barrels in the twenty-four hours. Some experiments are now making by the owner, in order to determine the possibility of having a series of undershot wheels placed in the race above, to be propelled by the force of the current only. Should he succeed, he intends extending his works, and to employ this power for cotton spinning, fulling, weaving, &c.

THE FULTON STEAM FRIGATE,

So called from its inventor Mr Fulton, may be considered as a most formidable floating Battery.

The author of the "Picture of New York," gives the following account of her: "On the 20th of June, 1814, the keel of this novel and mighty engine was laid, and in little more than nine months, that is, on the 29th of October, she was launched from the yard of Adam and Noah Brown, her able and active architects. The scene exhibited on that occasion was magnificent. It happened

on one of our bright autumnal days; multitudes of spectators crowded the surrounding shores, and were seen upon the hills which limited the beautiful prospect. The river and the bay were filled with vessels of war, dressed in all their variety of colours, in compliment to the occasion. In the midst of these was the enormous floating mass, whose bulk and unweildy form seemed to render her as unfit for motion, as the land batteries which were saluting her. Through the fleet of vessels which occupied this part of the harbour, was seen gliding, in every direction, several of our large steam-boats, of the burthen of three or four hundred tons. These, with bands of music, and crowds of gay and joyous company, were winding through passages left by the anchored vessels, as if they were moved by enchantment. The heart could not have been human that did not share in the general enthusiasm expressed by the loud shouts of the multitude."

The substance of the following description of the *Fulton the First*, the name this vessel bears, is extracted from the report of the gentlemen who were the commissioners for building her.

"She is a structure resting on two boats and keels, separated from end to end by a channel fifteen feet wide, and sixty-six feet long; one boat contains the cauldron of copper to prepare her steam. The cylinder of iron, its piston, levers, and wheels, occupy part of the other. The water wheel revolves in the space between them. The main or gun deck supports the armament, and is protected by a parapet, four feet ten inches thick, of solid timbers, pierced by embrasures. Through thirty port holes as many thirty-two pounders are intended to fire red hot shot, which can be heated with great safety and convenience. Her upper or spar-deck, upon which several thousand men might parade, is encompassed with a bulwark, which affords safe quarters. She is rigged with two stout masts, each of which supports a large latteen yard and sails: she has two bowsprits and jibs, and four rudders, one at each extremity of each boat; so that she can be steered with either end foremost: her machinery is calculated for the addition of an engine which will discharge an immense column of water, which

is intended to throw upon the decks, and through the port holes of an enemy, and thereby deluge her armament and ammunition."

But the most extraordinary effort of transatlantic skill and enterprize, is the

GREAT AMERICAN CANAL,

particulars of which we select from the Charleston City Gazette.

"This great work, which was begun in 1817, and will be completed next year, 1824, is the longest canal in existence, and though upon a small scale as to breadth and depth, is, we believe, in point of pecuniary outlay, the greatest work of the kind ever executed. It is 335 miles in length, 40 feet wide at the surface of the water, 28 at the bottom, and four feet deep, and will cost about five millions of dollars (£1,100,000), or £3,000 per mile on an average. Such a vast undertaking, completed in the short period of seven years, by a State (New York) with 1,368,000 inhabitants, affords a striking proof of the energy and enterprise generated by free institutions. —The canal, which extends from Black Rock, at the east end of Lake Erie, to Albany on the Hudson, will render this river the chief—almost the sole outlet, and New York the great emporium of a fertile country, extending along the lakes, much larger than the British isles, and fast filling with inhabitants. Proceeding eastward from Lake Erie, the canal rises 48 feet, and from the summit's level falls 601 feet to the Hudson, making an aggregate rise and fall of 649 feet, which is effected by 77 locks. Two levels or reaches extend over 65 and 70 miles without lockage, a circumstance perhaps without a parallel, except in China. There were 238 miles finished last autumn, and much of the rest was in a very advanced state. The stimulus it gives to improvement is already seen in the villages and towns which are springing up with astonishing rapidity along its whole course. Passage boats and Bateaux already ply on the parts completed. The former which are generally of a size to carry ninety passengers, travel at the rate of 100 miles in twenty four hours, and the charge is about 1½. or 2d. per mile.—National works are great or little by comparison; and to give a just idea of the enterprise displayed by the

State of New York in this instance, we shall state the dimensions and costs of some other great works of the same kind.—The celebrated canal of Languedoc is 152 miles long and six feet deep, has 100 locks: it has its summit level 639 feet above the sea, cost 13,000,000 livres (equal to £650,000), and was finished in 15 years. —The Forth and Clyde canal is 35 miles long, was originally seven feet deep, has 39 locks, rises to the height of 156 feet above the sea, cost £300,000, and was finished in 22 years.—The Caledonian canal is 24½ miles long (exclusive of the locks), is to be 20 feet deep, has 22 locks, rises 93 feet deep above the sea, will cost £950,000, and will be finished in 20 years from the time it commenced (1804).—The American canal, though its length renders it more expensive, has a much smaller section than any of these."

Before we entirely dismiss the subject of inventions, or enter upon the biographical department of this volume the following spirited remarks, on

AMERICAN SKILL AND LITERATURE,

by Dr. Dwight, are recommended to the attention of the reader.

In the Edinburgh Review of Ashe's Travels in America," says the Dr. is the following passage: "In short, Federal America has done nothing either to extend, diversify, or embellish the sphere of human knowledge. Though all she has written were obliterated, from the records of learning, there would (if we except the works of Franklin) be no positive diminution, either of the useful or the agreeable. The destruction of her whole literature would not occasion so much regret as we feel for the loss of a few leaves from an ancient classic."

These declarations are certainly uttered in a sprightly manner. But they are untrue. The late PRESIDENT EDWARDS has more enlarged the science of theology than any divine of whom either England or Scotland can boast; and the loss of his works would occasion more regret than these reviewers, and I may add, without any fear of sober contradiction, than the whole literary world would feel for the loss, not of a few leaves only, but of the whole works of half the ancient authors now extant.

I do not intend that the reviewers themselves would feel this regret, but that it would be felt by a vast multitude of mankind, to whom several writers in that review have been both openly and insidiously hostile; I mean Christians.

"His subjects are the most important in the universe; and his discussions are the clearest, the ablest, and the most decisive elucidations of them which the world has ever seen. He has elicited from the scriptures truths which have escaped other men; has illustrated them by arguments which were never before discovered; and has shown their independence, connection, and importance, with a comprehensiveness of view, which elsewhere will be sought for in vain.

"At the same time Mr. Edwards was a most powerful preacher. It is believed, that no preacher, who has appeared in this country, ever engrossed the attention of his audence so often, so long, and to so great a degree, except Mr. Whitfield. The Rev. Mr. Hooker, who succeeded him, a gentleman distinguished for his learning, good sense, and elegance of mind and manners, as well as for his moral worth, said to me in a circle, conversing on the nature of eloquence, "This subject is so variously understood and defined, that it is difficult to determine what is intended by it; but if it consists in making strong impressions of the subject of a discourse on the minds of an audience, Mr. Edwards was the most eloquent man whom I ever knew." The late Nehemiah Strong, Esq. a native of Northampton, and formerly professor of mathematics and natural philosophy in Yale college, observed to me, that in early youth he heard Mr. Edwards deliver the sermons, which now constitute the History of Redemption. His mind, he remarked, was from the beginning deeply interested in the subject. As it advanced, his feelings became more and more engaged. When Mr. Edwards came to a consideration of the final judgment, Mr. Strong said, his own mind was wrought up to such a pitch, that he expected, without one thought to the contrary, the awful scene to be unfolded on that day, and in that place. Accordingly, he waited with the deepest and the most solemn solicitude to hear the trumpet sound and the archangel call; to see the

graves open, the dead arise, and the Judge descend in the glory of his Father, with all his holy angels; and was deeply disappointed when the day terminated, and left the the world in its usual state of tranquility.

"The talents of my countrymen have been exhibited, as I think, respectably in various other modes. Dr. Franklin is excepted in this very declaration of the reviewer from the general disgrace; and has been so often pronounced a distinguished natural philosopher, in the most enlightened countries of Europe, and by persons of high eminence, that it is too late to attempt a reversal of this sentence, Professor WINTHORP would have done credit to any country in the character of a natural philosopher; as would also Dr. Williams, who afterwards filled the same chair in the university at Cambridge. Dr. Rittenhouse merited this character in a still greater degree. Bred to the business of a farmer, and educated only in an English school, he was obliged by ill health to quit that business, and devoted himself to the employmemt of a clock-smith, and then to that of a mathematical instrument maker. In both he was his own instructor. He formed the science of fluxions without any knowledge of its existence in Europe, and for a number of years supposed himself to be its author. The best ORRERY, it is believed, in the world, was invented, as well as made, by Dr. Rittenhouse. At the same time he was a man of a very enlarged and vigorous mind, and thought with peculiar felicity concerning every subject to which he directed his researches. What unhappily is not so often the fact as could be wished, he was also distinguished for moral excellence. Godfrey of Philadelphia was the inventor of the QUADRANT, falsely called Hadley's; it having been villainously stolen from him by a man of that name. The machinery of Whitney for the manufacturing of arms has not, it is believed, been excelled by any single mechanical effort of a mind accustomed to no mechanical pursuit. The ORRERY of Pope is a noble specimen of ingenuity, and had it been constructed on a scale sufficiently large to secure its arrangement and durability, it would probably be esteemed inferior to none now in the world. Many other specimens of ingenuity might be here mentioned, which

have reflected not a little credit on the inventors and their native country. Such is the machine invented by Mr. Whitney for cleansing the upland cotton of its seeds. Such also was the submarine vessel invented by Mr. Bushnell of Saybrook.

"The poetry of the Americans is treated by these reviewers with not a little contempt. On this subject I shall say little. It may, however, be observed, that several reviewers have spoken of it in more favourable terms. It may also be observed, without any partiality, that M'Fingal is not inferior in wit and humour to Hudibras, and in every other respect is superior. It has a regular plan, in which all the parts are well proportioned and connected. The subject is fairly proposed, and the story conducted correctly through a series of advancements and retardations to a catastrophe, which is natural and complete. The versification is far better; the poetry is in several instances in a good degree elegant, and in some even sublime. It is also free from those endless digressions, which, notwithstanding the wit discovered in them, are so tedious in Hudibras; the protuberances of which are a much larger mass than the body on which they grow.

"The painters of this country have been holden in honourable estimation in Great Britain. A high reputation has been attained by West and Copely, by Trumbull and Stuart. As a portrait painter, it is believed, Stuart has rarely if ever been excelled. Several others, younger than these, are also advancing rapidly towards distinction.

"Sculpture has not, within my knowledge, ever been attempted here. But engraving has already proceeded far, and is very fast advancing.

From the whole of this account, I cannot but persuade myself, that men of candour will think, that the inhabitants of this country have a claim to be considered with some other emotions than those of contempt, and to receive other treatment than sneers and sarcasms.

"The reviewer is disposed to speak contemptuously of Marshall's Life of Washington. Yet there is no piece of biography, written in Great Britain, if we except

those of Johnson, which would not suffer by a comparison with it. The last volume is almost singularly excellent. It ought here to be added, that the ministers, sent out to Europe by America, have holden at least as high a rank in European estimation as those who were their companions from any of the European courts.

I will, however, dismiss the subject with one more remark concerning my countrymen. The speeches of Ames, and several other members of the American congress, have been rarely excelled in eloquence by British orators."

EXTRAORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN, CHIEFLY OF AMERICAN BIRTH.

MEN OF GENIUS AND ENTERPRISE.

PRESIDENT WASHINGTON.

(The Editor, from Various Authorities.)

GEN. GEORGE WASHINGTON, the founder of the freedom of the United States of America, and the first president of that congress, which laid the foundation of their union, was born on the 11th of February, 1732, O. S. in the parish of Washington, Virginia. He was descended from an ancient family in Cheshire, of which a branch had been established in Virginia, about the middle of the 17th century. Before he was 20 years, he was appointed major in the colonial militia, and he had very early occasion to display those political and military talents, of which the exertions on a greater theatre have since made his name so famous throughout the world. Mr. Washington was sent as a delegate from Virginia to the Congress which met at Philadelphia, on the 26th Oct. 1774, and was appointed to the command of the army which had assembled in the New England provinces, to hold in check the British army. To detail his operations in the years which followed, would be to repeat the history of the American war. The magnanimity during the ravages of the civil war, in which he acted so conspicuous a part;

has been much and justly celebrated. The conclusion of the American war permitted him to return to those domestic scenes, from which no views of ambition seemed to have had the power to draw his affections. As a genuine proof of his patriotism, he would receive no pay for eight years service, but defrayed his expences during the war out of his private purse. But he was not allowed long to enjoy this privacy. To remedy the distress into which the country had been thrown by the war, a convention of delegates was assembled at Philadelphia, which strengthened the bands of the Federal Union, and bestowed on congress those powers which were necessary for good government. Washington was the president; and in three years after, he was elected president of the United States of America, under the New Constitution. During the turbulence of the French Revolution, he was re-elected to the office of the Presidency of the United States, which he held from April 1789, till Sept. 1796. His resignation was a measure of prudence, as well as of patriotism. From that period till July 1798, he lived in retirement at Mount Vernon. On Thursday the 12th Dec. 1799, he was seized with an inflammation in his throat, which became considerably worse the next day; and of which, notwithstanding the efforts of his physicians, he died on Saturday the 14th Dec. 1799, in the 68th year of his age. For the following character of this great man, we are indebted to the Earl of Buchan.—"He seemed to be one of those extraordinary men, whom the Almighty, in successive ages of the world has been pleased to raise up, to promote the grand and beneficent designs of his providence, in the melioration of his creatures and the improvement of human nature." "I feel a pride," (writes his learned successor, Jefferson, to Lord Buchan), "in the justice, which your Lordship's sentiments render to the character of my illustrious countryman, Washington. The moderation of his desires, and the strength of his judgment enabled him to calculate correctly that the road to that glory which never dies, is to use power for the support of the laws and liberties of our country, not for their destruction; and his will accordingly survive the wreck of every thing now living."—"He died"

(Lord Buchan adds) "as he lived, with fortitude and resignation to the will of the Almighty, and in the belief of the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ. Not a syllable of impatience or discontent was uttered in his greatest distress. Yet he had naturally a violent temper, which the spirit of that gospel, which had subdued it, enabled him to render subservient to great actions during the whole of the seven years war, and of his whole public administration. To draw his people to agricultural and industrious habits, and to a simplicity of manners, and a good education of youth, seemed to be the leading principle of his political system; and the maxim he unfolded in his valedictory oration to the Senate, when he voluntarily declined the continuation of supreme power, deserves to be recorded on tables of adamant.—"The foundations (said he) of national policy must be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality, since there is no truth more thoroughly established, than that there exists in the economy and course of nature, an indissoluble union between duty and advantage, between the genuine maxims of an honest and magnanimous people, and the solid rewards of public prosperity and happiness. Since we ought to be no less persuaded, that the propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation, that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained."—"In his stature," (adds the Earl), "he was tall and firm; in his countenance grave and thoughtful; in his manners easy and polite: in his family and society correct in all his relations; in his commerce with mankind scrupulously just and correct, a most affectionate husband, kind relation, and humane master to his slaves and servants. The liberation of his slaves, if so they could be denominated, under his government, he left to his excellent widow, Mrs. Washington, whom he appointed the chief executrix of his will, as well as his immediate heir in the greatest part of his property during her life. But she died soon after him of heart-break for her irreparable loss."

"The character of this truly great man," says another eminent writer, "will ever be revered by the admirers of genius, integrity, and genuine patriotism; for al-

though his exertions prevailed in depriving Great Britain of one of her most important possessions, the whole tenor of his conduct sufficiently proved, that he acted from the most thorough conviction, and from the purest principles. He fought and bled, not to degrade and enslave, but to render free and happy, his native land; and having done every thing that his country could expect or true patriotism could accomplish, like another honest Cincinnatus, he resigned his well, merited power into the same hands from which he received it, and withdrew into the tranquil bosom of honorable retirement; leaving to the state which he had contributed to establish, the fruits of his wisdom and the example of his virtues."*

DR. FRANKLIN.

(Jones's Biographical Dictionary.)

DOCTOR BENJAMIN FRANKLIN born at Boston in America 1706, was placed at a very early age under one of his brothers, who was a printer, where he made a rapid progress in that art so useful to mankind, and contracted an attachment for the press which continued as long as he lived.—Scarcely emerged from infancy, Franklin was a philosopher without being conscious of it, and by the continual exercise of his genius prepared himself for those great discoveries in science which have since associated his name with that of Newton, and for those political reflections which have placed him by the side of a Solon and a Lycurgus.—Soon after his removal from Boston to Philadelphia, Franklin, in concert with some other young men, established a small club; where every member, after his work was over, and on holidays, brought his stock of ideas, which were submitted to discussion. This society of which the young printer was the soul, has been the source of every useful establishment in that province calculated to promote the progress of science, the mechanical arts, and particularly the improvement of the human understanding.—Higher employments, how-

* See also page 73 this volume.

ever, at length called him from his country, which he was destined to serve more effectually as its agent in England, whither he was sent in 1757.—The stamp act, by which the British minister wished to familarize the Americans to pay taxes to the mother-country, revived that love of liberty which had led their forefathers to a country at that time a desert; and the colonies formed a congress, the first idea of which had been communicated to them by Franklin, at the conferences at Albany in 1754. The war that was just terminated, and the exertions made by them to support it, had given them a conviction of their strength; they opposed this measure, and the minister gave way, but reserved the means of renewing his attempts. Once cautioned, however, they remained on their guard; liberty, cherished by their alarms, took deep root; and the rapid circulation of ideas by means of newspapers, for the introduction of which they were indebted to the printer of Philadelphia, united them together to resist every fresh enterprise. In the year 1766, this printer, called to the bar of the house of commons, underwent that famous interrogatory, which placed the name of Franklin as high in politics, as it was before in natural philosophy. From that time he defended the cause of America with a firmness and moderation becoming a great man, pointing out to the ministry all the errors they had committed, and the consequences they would induce, till the period when, the tax on tea meeting the same opposition as the stamp act had done, England blindly fancied herself capable of subjecting by force 3,000,000 of men determined to be free, at a distance of 2000 leagues.—Every man is acquainted with the particulars of that war; but every man has not equally reflected on the bold attempt of Franklin as as a legislator. Having asserted their independence, and placed themselves in the rank ot nations, the different colonies, now the United States of America, adopted each its own form of government; and, retaining almost universally their admiration for the British constitution, framed them from the same principles variously modelled. Franklin alone, disengaging the political machine from those multiplied movements and

admired counterpoises that render it so complicated, proposed the reducing it to the simplicity of a single legislative body. This grand idea startled the legislators of Pennsylvania; but the philosopher removed the fears of a considerable number, and at length determined them to the adoption of his principle. Having given laws to his country, Franklin undertook again to serve it in Europe, not by representations to the metropolis, or answers at the bar of the house of commons; but by treaties with France, and successively with other powers. From France he returned to America in 1785, and lived five years after this period: for three years he was president of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania; he was a member of the convention that established the new form of federal government; and his last public act was a grand example for those who are employed in the legislation of their country. In this convention he had differed in some points from the majority; but when the articles were ultimated decreed, he said to his colleagues, "*We ought to have but one opinion; the good of our country requires that the resolution be unanimous;*" and he signed. He died April 17. 1790.—As an author, he never wrote a work of any length. His political works consist of letters or short tracts; but all of them, even those of humour, bear the marks of his observing genius and mild philosophy. He wrote many for that rank of people who have no opportunity for study, and whom it is yet of so much consequence to instruct: and he was well skilled in reducing useful truths to maxims easily retained, and sometimes to proverbs, or little tales, the simple and natural graces of which acquire a new value when associated with the name of their author. In short, the whole life of Franklin, his meditations, and his labours, have all been directed to public utility; but the grand object that he had always in view did not shut his heart against private friendship: he loved his family, his friends, and was extremely beneficent. In society he was sententious, but not fluent; a listener rather than a talker; an informing rather than a pleasing companion: impatient of interruption, he often mentioned the custom of the Indians, who always re-

main silent some time before they give an answer to a a question which they have heard attentively; unlike some of the politest societies in Europe, where a sentence can scarcely be finished without interruption. In the midst of his greatest occupations for the liberty of his country, he had some physical experiment near him in his closet; and the sciences, which he had rather discovered than studied, afforded him a continual source of pleasure. He made various bequests and donations to cities, public bodies, and individuals; and requested that the following epitaph, which he had composed for himself some years before, might be inscribed on his tombstone;

"The body of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Printer
(like the cover of an old book,
its contents torn out,
and stript of its lettering and gilding)
lies here food for worms;
yet the work itself shall not be lost,
but (as he believed*) appear once more
in a new
and more beautiful edition,
corrected and amended
by
THE AUTHOR."

PATRICK HENRY.

(From the Monthly Magazine, 1818.)

PATRICK HENRY, was born on the 29th of May, 1736, at Studley, in Virginia. His father, Col. John Henry, was a native of Aberdeen, in Scotland.

Under the direction of his father, who had opened a grammar-school in his own house, he acquired a superficial knowledge of the Latin language; and learned to read the character, but never to translate Greek. At the same time, he made a considerable proficiency in the mathematics.

* Franklin at one period of his life was a Sceptic, but died convinced of the truth of the Scriptures.—*See Hulbert's Biographical Sketches.*

At 18, he married a Miss Shelton, the daughter of an honest farmer in the neighbourhood, but in circumstances too poor to contribute effectually to her support. By the joint assistance of their parents, however, the young couple were settled on a small farm; and here, with the assistance of one or two slaves, Mr. Henry had to delve the earth, with his own hands, for subsistence.

Little could the wealthy and the great of the land,—as they rolled along the highway in splendor, and beheld the young rustic at work in the coarse garb of a labourer, covered with dust, and melting in the sun.– have suspected, that this was the man who was destined, not only to humble their pride, but to make the prince himself tremble on his distant throne, and to shake the brightest jewels from the British crown.

Mr. Henry's want of agricultural skill, and his unconquerable aversion to every species of systematic labour, drove him, necessarily, after a trial of two years, to abandon this pursuit altogether.

When all other experiments had failed, he determined, of his own accord, to make a trial of the law. To the study of a profession, which is said to require the lucubrations of twenty years, Mr. Henry devoted not more than six weeks! On this preparation, however, he obtained a license to practice the law.

The year 1764 is memorable for the origination of that great question which led finally to the independence of the United States. It has been said by a gentleman, at least as well qualified to judge as any other now alive, that "Mr Henry certainly gave the first impulse to the ball of the revolution."

In March, 1764, the British parliament had passed resolutions, preparatory to the levying a revenue on the colonies by a stamp tax. Men, on other occasions marked for intrepidity and decision, now hung back; unwilling to submit, and yet afraid to speak out in the language of bold and open defiance. It was just at this moment of despondency in some quarters, suspense in others, and surly and reluctant submission, wherever submission appeared, that Patrick Henry stood forth to raise the drooping spirit of the people, and to unite all

hearts and hands in the cause of his country. His dress and manners were still those of the plain planter, and in his personal appearance there was nothing to excite curiosity or awaken expectation. The forms of the house, of which he was now for the first time a member, were most awfully dignified.

Mr. Henry was elected with express reference to an opposition to the stamp act. When the session was within three days of its expected close, Mr. Henry introduced his celebrated resolutions on the stamp act.

The resolutions passed the house of burgesses in May, 1765. They formed the first opposition to the stamp act and the scheme of taxing America by the British parliament. The cords of argument, with which his adversaries frequently flattered themselves they had bound him fast, became pack-threads in his hands. He burst them with as much ease as the unshorn Sampson did the bands of the Philistines. He seized the pillars of the temple, shook them terribly, and seemed to threaten his opponents with ruin. It was an incessant storm of lightning and thunder which struck them aghast. The faint-hearted gathered courage from his countenance; and cowards became heroes while they gazed upon his exploits.

It was in the midst of this magnificent debate, while he was descanting on the tyranny of the obnoxious act, that he exclaimed, in a voice of thunder, and with the look of a god, "Cæsar had his Brutus—Charles the first his Cromwell—and George the Third—('Treason,' cried the speaker—'treason, treason,' echoed from every part of the house.—It was one of those trying moments which is decisive of character.—Henry faultered not for an instant; but rising to a loftier attitude, and fixing on the speaker an eye of the most determined fire, he finished his sentence with the firmest emphasis) *may profit by their example.* If this be treason, make the most of it."

After this debate, there was no longer a question among the body of the people, as to Mr. Henry's being the first statesman and orator in Virginia.

For Mr. Henry, and for the world, it happened unfortunately, that the years of his youth had been wasted

in idleness. He had become celebrated as an orator before he had learned to compose; and it is not therefore wonderful, that, when withdrawn from the kindling presence of the crowd, he was called upon, for the first time, to take the pen, all the spirit and flame of his genius were extinguished.

He lived to witness the issue of that revolution which his genius had set in motion; and (to repeat his own prophetic language before the commencement of the struggle) "to see America take her stand among the nations of the earth."

Mr. Henry was a sincere believer in the Christian religion, and had a strong desire for the successful propagation of the Gospel, but there was no tincture of bigotry or intolerance in his sentiments.

This Patriot was one of the members of that convention which met in 1788 to revise the constitution formed at the establishment of their independence. One of his observations on this memorable occasion deserves particular record: he said, in a discussion relative to the army and navy, that, "unless a miracle in human affairs shall interpose, no nation ever did, or ever can, retain its liberty after the loss of the sword and the purse."

It was in the year 1794 that he bade a final adieu to his profession, and retired to the bosom of his own family. He retired, loaded with honours, public and professional: and carried with him the admiration, the gratitude, the confidence, and the love, of his country. No man had ever passed through so long a life of public service with a reputation more perfectly unspotted. He had now, too, become disembarrassed of debt; his fortune was affluent; and he enjoyed in his retirement that ease and dignity which no man ever more richly deserved.

But it was in the bosom of his own family, where the eye of every visitor, and even every neighbour, was shut out—where neither the love of fame, nor the fear of censure, could be suspected of throwing a false light upon his character—it was in that very scene, in which it has been said that "no man is a hero," that Mr. Henry's heroism shone with the most engaging beauty.

The disease which had been preying upon him for two years now hastened to its crisis; and on the sixth day of June, 1799, this friend of liberty and of man was no more.

Thus lived, and thus died, the celebrated Patrick Henry of Virginia; a man who justly deserves to be ranked among the highest ornaments and noblest benefactors of his country. Had his lot been cast in the republics of Greece or Rome, his name would have been enrolled by some immortal pen among the champions of liberty: the proudest monuments of national gratitude would have risen to his honour, and handed down his memory to future generations.

BENJAMIN WEST, ESQ. P. R. A.

(From the Literary Chronicle, 1820.*)*

THE ancestors of Mr. West formed a branch of the family of that name which distinguished itself in the wars of King Edward the Third. During the reign of Richard the Second, they established themselves at Long Cranden, Bucks, and there dwelt until 1667, when they adopted the faith of the sect of 'Quakers,' which was then in an infant state of propagation. Colonel West, the companion of Hampden, an officer, celebrated for the valour which he displayed at the battle of Worcester, and for the warm zeal which he manifested in the republican cause, was the first who adopted the principles of Quakerism. In 1699, the chief part of the family removed with William Penn, to his settlement called Pennsylvania, when he visited that province the second time: the grandfather and grandmother, on the maternal side, also accompanied that founder of the new settlement on his first visit thereto, in 1681. In 1714, Mr. John West removed to Pennsylvania and married there, and the late Mr. West was the youngest of the ten children of this couple, having been born at Chester county, in Pennsylvania, on the 10th of October, in the year 1738.

Mr. West, at an early age, evinced a great attachment to the arts. When he had attained only the seventh year of his age, he drew, with pen and ink, a correct

sketch of one of his sisters, whilst asleep in her cradle. After this first attempt at portraiture, he constantly devoted to delineation, all his leisure hours, although his materials were confined to the scanty powers of pen and ink. Soon afterwards, a party of Indians, highly gratified with the sight of his sketches of birds and flowers, taught him to prepare the red and yellow colours, with which they painted their national and personal ornaments. A piece of indigo, supplied by his mother, completed the collection of the three primary colours—an acquisition which highly delighted young West. The same Indians taught him to shoot birds for models, as well for outline as for their beautiful plumage. But the necessary hair-pencil was still wanting, as such instrument was only HEARD OF where West resided. Ingenuity is a fruitful mother, and West clipped his father's black cat, and with the hair made a useful pencil, which was soon worked to its root; and so frequently was the cat's hair afterwards resorted to, that she stalked about the house a *hairless cat*—a terror to the feline species. A friend, interested in young West's progress, afterwards presented him with a proper box of colours, some pieces of prepared canvas, and some engravings. West set to work with increased attention, and composed and painted a clever design from one of such engravings. This picture was exhibited in the same room with 'Christ rejected,' sixty-seven years afterwards, in London, and West has frequently declared in that room, that 'there were in that his juvenile attempt, certain inventive touches which, with all his subsequent experience he never had surpassed.'

At the age of sixteen, he adopted the science of painting as a profession. At Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, and at the cities of Philadelphia and New York, he successfully executed several portraits and historical pictures. At the age of twenty-one the produce of his industry enabled him to soar after excellence in historical painting, by resorting to Italy as the venerable and luxuriant abode of the arts. Mr. West embarked from Philadelphia for the city of Leghorn, in the year 1760, at which period there was a severe war between England and France; in consequence of which, the ship in

which Mr. West sailed, dropped anchor at Gibraltar, until it could be conveyed to Leghorn. Captain Meadows, afterwards Lord Newark, commanded such convoy, and, upon his urbanity and kindness to Mr. West, was founded that solid friendship which afterwards existed between them. After a short stay at Leghorn, Mr. West went to Rome, having first obtained several letters of recommendation to Cardinal Albani and other persons of note at that place. By such means he was honoured with an introduction to Raffaele, Mengs, Battoni, and other artists of merit, and contracted an acquaintance with Mr. Wilcox, author of 'Roman Conversations,' together with Mr. Robinson, afterwards Lord Grantham. To the improving society and liberal assistance of such able friends, we may attribute that refinement of taste which Mr. West afterwards possessed. The Italians were anxious to witness the impressions of a young American first beholding the works of art in the Belvidere and the Vatican, and conducted young West to view the 'Apollo;' that beautiful statue being placed in a closet, and instantaneously opened to West's view, when he enthusiastically exclaimed, 'My God, how like is that figure to a young Mohawk warrior!"

The transition from a few English portraits, which were all relating to the fine arts to be seen in America, to the splendid specimens of ancient and modern art extant at Rome, so forcibly affected his susceptible mind with feelings of ardent enthusiasm, as to cause temporary illness—the consequence of extreme wonder and mental irritation.

Upon his recovery, accompanied by an English Gentleman, of good birth and taste, he visited, at the particular advice of Mengs, Bologna, Mantua, Parma, Venice, and Verona, studiously observing the works of Carracci, Correggio, Tintoretti, Paul Veronese, Romano, Titian, and others, being the most renowned masters of the schools of the Lombards and Venetians, the greatest productions of which were in such cities.

He devoted himself with enthusiasm to his studies, and received great encouragement from the approbation of those persons to whose opinions in matters of taste and art, much deference was paid. But his in-

tense application, although congenial to his vigorous mind, was not suitable to his constitution of body, and ill health again threatened a severe impediment to his arduous exertions. He determined, therefore, to change a strange country, for the respected land of his forefathers. The Spring Gardens' Exhibition of works in the Fine Arts, was first opened to the public, in April, 1764. At the particular request of Reynolds and Wilson, Mr. West then exhibited his 'Cimon and Iphigenia' and 'Angelica and Madora,' together with a full length portrait of General Monckton.

In the year 1767, Mr. West was strongly recommended to the notice of his Majesty, by Archbishop Drummond, upon his completing, for his Grace, the picture of 'Agrippina landing at Brundusium with the ashes of Germanicus.' The archbishop introduced to the king, Mr. West and his picture, which met with his Majesty's great approbation, and he employed our artist to execute the picture of 'Regulus,' and afterwards prevailed upon him particularly to direct his attention to Scripture History.

In 1769, Mr. West exhibited at the Royal Academy, his 'Regulus.' He had during his travels through Italy and France, regretted the degenerate condition in which the arts had been involved since their state of excellence, about the fifteenth or sixteenth centuries. In considering the above art as speaking an universal language, and as forcible affecting the feelings of men, he determined to apply his pencil to the same good objects, to which had been devoted the early efforts of the eleventh and twelfth centuries, scripture history, and which had been encouraged by princely patronage, in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries—under the influence of the house of the Medici, at Florence, and of Pope Leo the Tenth. Mr. West instead of sacrificing his pencil to the legendary tales of romantic fiction, added dignity to his art, by the more worthy and useful delineation of scripture history and to the illustration of patrioism, virtue and greatness. His pictures of Agrippina, Regulus, Wolfe, Penn, and Hannibal, are splendid and honourable proofs of his admirable determination. The engravings from those several

pictures by Green, Eslum, Woolett, &c. formed articles of commercial intercourse throughout the European continent. The success which attended those pictures, overthrew the dissipated state in which the arts were involved and caused dignified majesty to be substituted for licentious freedom

Mr. West also effected a revolution in the dressing of figures, and would not encourage the ridiculous fashion of cloathing figures indiscriminately, with the ancient Greek and Roman costumes. He adopted, as an axiomatical truth, the principle, that the dress of a picture has no influence upon the passions of the mind; that it may add to the ornament, but that it imparts no energy to the soul. In consequence of the success and propriety attending the establishment of this principle, artists have since cautiously refrained from dressing their figures in a costume contrary to the period and country in which the subjects which they represent took place. This revolution in painting was highly applauded by the good sense of men of all nations, although it required time to overcome that prejudice which exists in favour of the long accustomed mode. Reynolds himself was not free from this idle prejudice, and strongly advised West to put his figures in armour, in his first sketch of 'The Death of Wolfe;' but although he respected his adviser, he was determined to risk his more rational attempt, at the expense of fashion, and to discover whether the public would not equally respect the memory and valour of Wolfe, whether he was clad in a red coat or in steel armour, and the experiment succeeded well.

A few weeks previous to the decease of Sir Joshua Reynolds, he had appointed Mr. West to preside at the chair as his deputy, and to tender to the general assembly his resignation. Mr. West was, therefore, appointed chairman to conduct the affairs of the Academy *pro. tem.* The academicians, sensible both of the talents of Mr. West, and of his long and intimate connection with the Academy, *una voce* elected him to the presidency.

After exercising his appointment of president for many years, with much talent and prudence, he resigned the chair, and Mr. Wyatt, the architect, succeeded. Mr. West was ere long recalled to the situation.

In 1802, he visited the National Gallery of Arts, at Paris, with his youngest son, when he was honoured with the most flattering encomiums, and received the most marked attention, and he was not inaptly termed 'the reviver of the dignity of historical painting.' He was there attended by a deputation from the National Institute, and was invited to a magnificent banquet. Flattered by the great attentions of Napoleon, the first consul, who furnished him with apartments in the Louvre, he imprudently advocated the republican cause with intemperate warmth, although he then enjoyed, from his British Majesty, a liberal pension of £1000 per year. Upon his return to England, therefore, he was received with great coolness. In 1805, the British Institution for promoting the Fine Arts, in this kingdom, was founded, pursuant to the strong recommendation of Mr. West. The declared object of this institution, was to promote talent and reward exertion in the highest departments of the Fine Arts, in historical and landscape painting, modelling and sculpture. In 1806, Mr. West completed his much admired historical picture of 'the Death of Lord Nelson,' wherein were fifty portraits of officers and men who were actually engaged in the battle of Trafalgar, grouped with much spirit and correctness. Mr. West treated the picture as epic, being illustrative of an heroic subject, and therefore, according to the present fashion at Drury Lane, caused all the characters in the scene to centre in the celebrated hero. The picture represents the death of Nelson, and the victory of the British fleet, at one and the same time. The unaffected dignity of the figure, and the great accuracy of the portrait of Nelson, were considered as great proofs of skill. About the year 1815, Mr. West, upon being summoned to attend the committee, appointed by the House of Commons, to examine and report upon the merits and estimated value of the Elgin marbles, he stated in evidence, that he considered the Theseus and Ilissus, the *Torso* of Neptune, and the Horse's Head, as in the first class of dignified art, employed on the first specimens of nature. He considered the Apollo and *Torso* of the Belvidere and the Laocoon, as specimens of

systematic art; and appealed to the judgment of the committee, whether he had not displayed the advantages which the study of them had afforded him in his then two last pictures—'Christ in the Temple,' and 'Christ rejected.' In the year 1818, 'Death on the pale Horse,' occupied the public attention, and excited the stern criticism of those who were not so much attached to the 'epic' as Mr. West, although all critics agree in applauding the figure of Death exhibited in that picture, as sublimely terrible and admirably conceived. During the latter part of 1819, Mr. West was afflicted with severe pain, most probably the consequence of age and labour, and from which he never recovered. This cessation from the pursuit of his favourite pencil tended to confirm his ill health, and, at times, he expressed his firm determination to return to his rooms, even about a fortnight before he died, but death closed his long and honourable career, on the 11th of March, 1820, at his house, 14, Newman Street, Oxford Street, when he died without a struggle or a groan, aged eighty-one years. On the morning of the 29th of March, his remains were interred with great honours; the procession was attended by the several officers, members, and students of the Academy—the principal British artists, and many literary characters, together with a great portion of the nobility. The following is the inscription upon his tomb-stone:—

Here lie the remains of
BENJAMIN WEST, ESQ.
President of the Royal Academy of Painting,
Sculpture, and Architecture;
Born 10th of October, 1738, at Springfield, in
Pennsylvania, in America;
Died in London, March 11, 1820.

In concluding our sketch of the life of Mr. West, we shall neither join that interested herd, which has with singular selfishness and ignorance asserted, that he was a mere inferior artist; nor that extravagant train of partial flatterers, who have, with more of boldness than of truth, maintained, that Mr. West was the greatest artist

that ever flourished. We think that every honest man must recoil with indignation, at the uncharitable injustice of the first assertion, and every impartial critic must dissent from the latter. It must be admitted, that art is much indebted to Mr. West, for boldly stemming the impetuous torrent of prejudice and fashion, and for planting the classic and ever verdant laurel, where the gay anemone before lavished its dissipating sweets. Mr. West has ever been unwilling to gratify the luscious taste of the eye, at the expence of the judgment. He has always had in view, the improvement of art and the cultivation of genius. He improved, dignified, and ennobled historical painting, and by his influence and example, greatly overcame the prejudices which once existed in the public mind, against that most interesting branch of art. He wisely considered, that although music has its local peculiarities, yet that painting, being accurate in its representations, appeals in the same manner to persons of all nations. He treated the imitation of nature, the very object of art, as a source of promoting moral virtue and exciting religious feelings."

It would be easy to swell this Publication by the addition of the lives of such men as the great Dr. Rush, a Physician and Philantrophist, the Rev. Elhanan Winchester, a most pious and eminent Divine, &c. In aftertimes historians will record the name of Washington, Irving among the ingenious and illustrious of America.

WILLIAM BEADLE.

THE subject of the following sketch, though of very considerable natural powers, is not introduced as a singular instance of genius or enterprise, but his extraordinary conduct appears worthy of recording, as exhibiting the pernicious effects of infidelity on a mind entirely disordered by its unhappy influence. Nor was William Beadle a native of that quarter of the globe the subject of the present volume; he was an Englishman by birth, but long a resident and citizen of the United States. His interesting and affecting narrative is from Dr. Dwight's valuable and amusing Journal:—

"William Beadle" (says the Dr.) "was born in a little

village near London. In the year 1755, he went out to Barbadoes, with Governor Pinfold, where he stayed six years, and then returned to England. In 1762, he purchased a small quantity of goods, and brought them to New York, and thence to Stratford in Connecticut, where he lived about two years. Thence he removed to Derby, where he continued a year or two, and thence to Fairfield. Here he married Miss Lathorp, a lady of respectable family, belonging to Plymouth, in Massachusetts. In 1772, he removed to Wethersfield, and continued in this town about ten years, sustaining the character of a worthy honest man, and a fair dealer.

In the great controversy which produced the American revolution, he adopted American principles, and characteristically adhered with rigid exactness to whatever he had once adopted. After the continental paper currency* began to depreciate, almost every trader sold his goods at an enchanced price. Beadle, however, continued to sell his at the original prices, and to receive the depreciated currency in payment. This money he kept by him until it had lost its value. The decay of his property rendered him melancholy, as appeared by several letters which he left behind him, addressed to different persons of his acquaintance.

By the same letters, and other writings, it appears, that he began to entertain designs of the most desperate nature three years before his death, but was induced to postpone them by a hope, that Providence would, in some way or other, change his circumstances for the better, so far as to make it advisable for him to wait for death in the ordinary course of events. But every thing which took place, whether of great or little importance, tended, he says, to convince him, that it was his duty to adopt the contrary determination. During all this time he managed his ordinary concerns just as he had heretofore done. His countenance wore no appearance of any change in his feelings or views. The very evening before the catastrophe to which I alluded

* The paper money emitted by Congress during the revolutionary war.

took place, he was in company with several of his friends, conversed on grave and interesting subjects, but without the least appearance of any peculiar emotion.

On the morning of December 11, 1782, he called up a female servant, who slept in the same room with his children, and was the only domestic in his family, and directed her to arise so softly as not to disturb the children. When she came down, he gave her a note, which he had written to Dr. Farnsworth, his family physician, and told her to carry it, and wait until the physician was ready to come with her; informing her at the same time, that Mrs. Beadle had been ill through the night.

After the servant had gone, as appeared by the deplorable scene presented to the eyes of those who first entered the house, he took an axe, struck each of his children once, and his wife twice on the head, cut their throats quite across with a carving-knife, which he had prepared for the purpose, and then shot himself through the head with a pistol.

Dr. Farnsworth, upon opening the note, found that it announced the diabolical purpose of the writer; but supposing it impossible that a sober man should adopt so horrible a design, concluded that he had been suddenly seized by a delirium. Dr. Farnsworth, however, hastened with the note to the Honourable Stephen Mix Mitchell, now chief justice of the state. This gentleman realized the tragedy at once. The house was immediately opened, and all the family were found dead in the manner which has been specified.

I knew this family intimately. Mrs. Beadle possessed a very pleasing person, a fine mind, and delightful manners. The children were unusually lovely and promising. Beadle in his writings, which were numerous, professed himself a Deist, and declared that man was in his opinion, a mere machine, unaccountable for his actions, and incapable of either virtue or vice. The idea of a revelation he rejected with contempt. At the same time he reprobated the vices of others in the strongest terms, and spoke of duty, in the very same writings, in language decisively expressive of his belief in the existence of both duty and sin. The jury of

inquest pronounced him to be of sound mind, and brought in a verdict of murder and suicide.

The inhabitants of Wethersfield, frantic with indignation and horror at a crime so unnatural and monstrous, and at the sight of a lady and her children, for whom they had the highest regard, thus butchered by one who ought to have protected them at the hazard of his life, took his body, as they found it, and dragged it on a small sled to the bank of the river, without any coffin, with the bloody knife tied upon it, and buried it as they would have buried the carcase of a beast, between high and low water mark.

The corpses of the unhappy family were the next day carried, with every mark of respect, to the church, where a sermon was preached to a very numerous concourse of sincere mourners. They were then interred in the common burying-ground, and in one grave.

Mrs. Beadle was thirty-two years of age, and the eldest child about fifteen. Beadle was fifty-two years of age, of small stature, and of an ordinary appearance. He was contemplative, possessed good sense, loved reading, and delighted in intelligent conversation. His manners were gentlemanly, and his disposition hospitable. His countenance exhibited a strong appearance of determination; yet he rarely looked the person, with whom he was conversing, in the face, but turned his eye askance, the only suspicious circumstance which I observed in his conduct; unless a degree of reserve and mystery, which always attended him, might merit the name of suspicious. Such as he was, he was cheerfully admitted to the best society in this town; and there is no better society.

Colonel Belden adds to his account the following note:

"This deed of horror seems to have been marked by the indignation of Heaven in the treatment of the body of the perpetrator.

"The ground, in which he was first buried, happened to belong to the township of Glastonbury, although lying on the western side of the river. The inhabitants of Glastonbury, thinking themselves insulted by the burying of such a monster within its limits, manifested

their uneasiness in such a manner as to induce the select men of the town of Wethersfield to order the removal of the body. Accordingly it was removed in the night, secretly, and by a circuitous route, and buried again at some distance from the original place of sepulture. Within a few days, however, the spot where it was interred was discovered. It was removed again in the night, and buried near the western bank of the river, in Wethersfield. The following spring it was uncovered by the freshet, The flesh was washed from the bones. At this season, a multitude of persons customarily resort to Wethersfield, to purchase fish. By these and various other persons, in the indulgence of a strange, and I think unnatural curiosity, the bones were broken off, and scattered through the country.

Pride was unquestionably the ruin of Beadle. He was, obviously, a man of a very haughty mind. He doated upon his wife and children. His pride could not bear the thought of leaving them behind him, without a fortune sufficient to give them undisputed distinction in the world.

Beadle as I have observed, denied the existence of a Divine Revelation; yet he placed a strong reliance upon dreams, as conveying direct indications of the will of God, so strong as to make them the directories of his own moral conduct in a case of tremendous magnitude. He appears by his writings to have been long persuaded, that he had a right to take the lives of his children, because they were his children; and therefore, in his own view, his property. But he thought himself unwarranted to take away the life of his wife. She, poor creature, under the influence of very painful impressions from his extraordinary conduct, particularly from the fact, that he continually brought an axe, and other instruments of death, into his bedchamber, dreamed frequently, and in a very disturbed manner. One morning she told him, that in her sleep, the preceding night, she had seen her own corpse, and the corpses of her children, exposed in coffins in the street, that the sun shone on them for a long time, and that they were ultimately frozen. This dream made a deep impression on Beadle's mind. In his writings he mentions it as having solved all his

doubts; and as a direct revelation from Heaven, that it was lawful for him to put his wife also to death.

We have here a strong proof (says Dr. Dwight) of the propriety, with which infidels boast of their exemption from superstition and credulity."

Without deserving the charge of uncharitableness, we may confidently assert, that Deists are in general quite as credulous as their Christian neighbours, especially if a story be told them discreditable to Revelation, or in unison with their own views of Religion. The great Lord Herbert, of Cherbury, in his work entitled "De Veritate," laid down the principles of Deism, and professed to have a *Revelation* to publish his opinions!

The Editor of this work has personally known several very sensible men, Sceptics in religion, who have nevertheless been dreadfully alarmed at the idea of a Ghost, and shocked by very silly and ridiculous dreams.

These remarks will receive some illustration from the following circumstance, which happened in Manchester about twenty-three years ago.

Previous to the period alluded to, the Editor resided in the neighbourhood of that town, where he became acquainted with two young gentlemen connected with the Cotton manufacture; who from being extremely religious, by reading Paine's 'Age of Reason,' became most zealous unbelievers: one, the hero of the following story, pretended to deny the existence of good or evil spirits, and declared he believed there was no God but nature: that matter was eternal, &c.;" and right valiant he was in his profession till his courage and creed were placed in their proper light.

The gentleman of the house, a Mr. R. with whom Horatio (as we shall call him) lodged, happening to be in want of a bell to call up the servant in a morning, contrived a kind of elastic lath, or thin piece of wood, which he fastened at one end with a nail to the wall of the servant's room, and tied a string to the other, which string communicating with his own bed room; he, by pulling it with a sudden jirk, caused the lath to strike against the partition, with a sound resembling a smart blow with a stick. This, the courageous champion

United States; he accordingly, with all his numerous of Thomas Paine, Hobbs, Hammond, &c. heard (his bed room being on the same floor) but not knowing the cause, felt considerable surprise, and probably no small degree of fear. He therefore, on going down stairs, eagerly enquired who had been amusing themselves by slapping on the wall. The family perceiving some thing of alarm, in his countenance, for the sake of the joke declared their total ignorance of the circumstance. He then became really terrified. On his retiring in the evening to rest, the master of the house hastened to his own room, and to give solemnity to the thing, pulled the lath string so as to strike a blow, once in about every minute.

Poor Horatio was now in a state of complete agitation; yet so bold that he searched the room in which the sound was heard, from side to side, over and under the bed, but no being could he find at all likely to create the noise; he returned to his room;—no sooner was he again in bed and his face closely covered with the bed clothes, than the supposed ghost commenced its slapping freaks, he ventured once more to the disturbed room,—the author of his alarm was still invisible; he then proceeded to the bed room of Mr. R. declaring the house was haunted, and that he would not sleep another night in it unless Mr. R. would sleep with him; to this Mr. R. consented, having previously instructed Mrs. R. how to proceed. No sooner were the parties in bed, than operations commenced. There! there! exclaimed the affrighted Horatio, now dont you hear it? "no replied Mr. R. I hear nothing, it is all delusion Horatio, you are deceiving yourself, depend upon it, there is no noise whatever. Horatio was not sufficiently credulous to believe this. After a period all went to rest. The next day he was alternately agitated by terror, vexation and determination; and he resolved should he be disturbed again the coming night he would be as brave as Shakespear's Horatio, and "speak to it." Accordingly, as usual, the slaps commenced with his preparing to sleep. After much hesitation, he mustered courage, and in the assumed voice of authority, thus addressed the ghost "In the name of God what art thou! if any thing supernatural, slap three times;" the command was instantly

of ghosts and apparitions was now complete, and his terror was equal to the force of conviction; he rose from his bed, dressed himself, and went down stairs, determined never more to sleep in a house disturbed by ghosts. Mr. R. rose also to *comfort* him, and told him to behave like a man, and not give way to superstitious fears; calling upon him to recollect how many had been deceived, and that he ought not to trust his own senses, "but sooner believe he was himself deceived, than that Nature should change her course, or a supernatural Being exist." In all this there was *no logic*, Horatio declared his conviction of the Truth of the Chritian Religion, and that he never did seriously disbelieve—that he now believed all the stories of apparitions which had been told him by C. H. and should in future be a very religious good man.

Mr. R. was then himself a *moderate* Deist. Fearing the thing would take *too serious* a turn he acquainted Horatio with the nature of the hoax; whose rage was now equal to his former terror. He had exposed himself to the laughter of all his Christian acquaintance, and the sneers of his unbelieving companions. He begged most pitifully that the particulars of his confession and *womanish* fears might not transpire, but "murder cannot be hid," the story got wind; and the writer of this article has hundreds of times heard the particulars from Mr. R. and his family, in the presence of the humbled Horatio.

This anecdote, simple as it may appear, is one among the numerous proofs we have, that many profess themselves Sceptics who are not sincere in their unbelief. Poor Horatio, it appears, was one of these.

There were at that time a kind of fellowship of Deists in Manchester, consisting of several respectable and intelligent individuals, with whom the editor of this work had many disputes, and that without ever creating animosity or destroying good will. One of them, a truly worthy and intelligent Cotton manufacturer, when on a short visit at Shrewsbury, several years afterwards, related the following anecdote:

He stated, that having been unsuccessful in business in Manchester, he determined to seek an asylum in the United States; he accordingly, with all his numerous

family, (a wife, seven daughters and a son) embarked at Liverpool, for New York. They arrived in safety, but found that city full of adventurers of a similar class with themselves; they wintered there without meeting with any employment whatever, and in the spring returned to Manchester. Here difficulties assailed them anew. Unable himself to meet with a situation suited to his abilities, few or no real friends, he was reduced to the last degree of necessity and distress. In this extremity, he had no resource to save his family from perishing but that of pledging one of his most valuable articles of dress; for which purpose he directed his steps to a pawnbroker's in the neighbourhood and begged for ten shillings upon the garment, the pawnbroker would only lend half the sum; unwilling to accept it, in the warmth of passion, which disappointment creates, he dashed the garment with violence on the shop counter, exclaiming "we will fast another day," at the same moment the delightful jink of money saluted his ears, he instantly recollected, when at Liverpool preparing for his voyage to New York, to prevent robbery, he sewed up two guineas in the lining of the article he was intending to pledge—yes, perhaps forever to part with. This was probably one of the happiest moments of his life. The providence was too striking to be overlooked. His heart beat with sensations to which it had been long a stranger, he hastened home, acquainted his family with the gracious interposition on their behalf, when all fell upon their knees adoring the goodness of the Deity; expressing their firm belief in the superintending care of a beneficient Heaven. His gloomy Infidelity now vanished before the light of a glorious conviction, that, "not a sparrow falleth to the ground without the notice of the Father of the Universe."

At the period when this good man related this, and others equally striking providences, he was in prosperous circumstances, and in the full enjoyment of Christian peace and comfort.

The editor presumes to hope the reader will pardon this very long digression, and if he enjoys a smile at the hoax practised on one unbeliever, by a brother Sceptic, he will adore that Providence, who by a timely act of his unlimited goodness brought another Deist to his knees and to a belief of the truth.

Should any of the parties meet with this publication, let them be assured that no reflection is meant on themselves. All are at least twenty years older than when they usually saw one another. The fortunes of each have been various, and it may never be their fate to meet together again in this state of being. Were they now with the writer of these remarks, he could tell them he has tried the Religion they once so frequently ridiculed, and blamed him for professing; that it has supported him in the most trying circumstances, and under the deepest afflictions; and that he would not part with his Faith, in the Scriptures, or his Hope of everlasting Life through the medium of a Redeemer, for an Hecatomb of Worlds.

SKENADON, THE ONEIDA CHIEF.

(From an American Paper.)

"DIED, at his residence near Oneida Castle, on Monday, the 11th of March, 1816, Skenadon, the celebrated Oneida Chief, aged 110 years; well known in the wars which occurred while we were British colonies, and in the contest which issued in our independence, as the undeviating friend of the people of the United States. He was very savage, and addicted to drunkenness in his youth,* but by his own reflections, and the benevolent instructions of the late Rev. Mr. Kirkland, Missionary to his tribe, he lived a reformed man for more than sixty years, and died in Christian hope.

* In the year 1755, Skenadon was present at a treaty made in Albany. At night he was excessively drunk; and in the morning found himself in the street, stripped of all his ornaments and every article of cloathing. His pride revolted at his self-degradation, and he resolved that he would never again deliver himself over to the power of *strong water*.

Drunkard whoever thou art that reads this Anecdote *resolve*, and "*do* thou likewise.—ED.

Skenadon's person was tall and brawny, but well made; his countenance was intelligent, and beamed with all the indigenous dignity of an Indian Chief. In his youth he was a brave and intrepid warrior, and in his riper years one of the ablest councillors among the North American tribes. He possessed a strong and vigorous mind; and though terrible as the tornado in war, he was bland and mild as the zephyr in peace. With the cunning of the fox, the hungry perseverance of the wolf, and the agility of the mountain cat, he watched and repelled Canadian invasions. His vigilance once preserved from massacre the inhabitants of the infant settlement of German-flats. His influence brought his tribe to our assistance in the war of the Revolution. How many of the living and the dead have been saved from the tomahawk and scalping knife, by his friendly aid, is not known; but individuals and villages have expressed gratitude for his benevolent interpositions; and among the Indian tribes he was distinguished by the appellation of the *White Man's Friend*.

Although he could speak but little English, and in his extreme old age was blind, yet his company was sought. In conversation he was highly decorous, evincing that he had profited by seeing civilized and polished society, and by mingling with good company in his better days.

To a friend, who called on him a short time since, he thus expressed himself by an interpreter:—

"'I am an aged hemlock—the winds of an hundred winters have whistled through my branches; I am dead at the top. The generation to which I belonged, have run away, and left me; why I live, the Great Good Spirit only knows. Pray to my Jesus, that I may have patience to wait for my appointed time to die.'

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* This brief ejaculation of a *blind Indian*, exemplifies that species of extemporaneous poetry peculiar to the early periods of nations; and therefore, as the effort of uncontrouled genius is considered as the first stage of song; its best specimens are the poetry of the inspired writers, that of Homer, and most strikingly of Ossian.—Ed.

Honoured Chief! his prayer was answered! he was cheerful and resigned to the last. For several years he kept his dress for the grave prepared. Once, and again, and again, he came to Clinton to die, longing that his soul might be with Christ, and his body in the narrow house, near his beloved Christian teacher.

While the ambitious but vulgar great, look principally to sculptured monuments, and to niches in the temples of earthly fame, Skenadon, in the spirit of the only real nobility, stood with his loins girded, waiting the coming of his Lord.

His Lord has come! and the day approaches when the green hillock that covers his dust, will be more respected than the pyramids, the mausolea, and the pantheons of the proud and imperious. His simple 'turf and stone' will be viewed with affection and veneration, when the taudry ornaments of human apotheosis shall awaken only pity and disgust.

'Indulge, my native land, indulge the tear,
'That steals impassion'd o'er a nation's doom;
'To me each twig from Adam's stock is dear,
'And sorrows fall upon an Indian's tomb.'

INSTANCES OF EXTRAORDINARY PERSONAL BEAUTY.

PRINCESS POCAHONTAS.

(The Editor.)

THAT America has produced many instances of rare personal attraction, cannot be doubted; though history affords but few examples of any of distinguished celebrity: that of the Princess Pocahontas will live while gratitude and feeling exists in the minds of Englishmen and Americans. The Editor regrets he has not at hand more detailed and circumstantial particulars of this lovely and heroic Indian, than the following:

On the 19th of December, 1616, Captains Newport, Gosnald, and Radcliffe, sailed from the Thames for North America, with a colony of English settlers. Captain Newport was driven by storms into the mouth of

Chesapeake Bay. In the latter end of April, 1607, he discovered Capes Henry and Charles; and on the 13th of May, he landed his colony on a beautiful peninsula, formed by a river, which the natives called Powhatan. They were soon involved in a war with the Indians; who, though they annoyed the colonists considerably, by attacking them while at work, where generally dispersed by firing a gun, or letting loose a bull-dog. The other adventurers so much envied the courage and talents of Captain John Smith, one of the officers in the expedition, that they not only imprisoned him, during their voyage, under the frivolous pretence of his having intended to make himself king of Virginia,—but would not suffer him to be one of the council, when, on opening the packets, they found his name among the rest. When it became necessary, also, that Captain Newport and the officers should return to England, they proposed, with affected humanity, that Smith should go with them, and have his trial in his native country: but he demanded a hearing on the spot; was honourably acquitted; and took his seat among the council. Newport left the colony about the 15th of June; leaving behind him, one bark, and about one hundred persons.

The number was soon abridged. Wasting with improvidence the stores, which they already possessed, and careless to seek others, when those should be exhausted, each man became reduced to the daily allowance of only a pint of worm-eaten wheat and barley: the climate, at all times hot, was now humid; and before the month of September, the colonists had buried one half of their number; among the rest Bartholomew Gosnald, whose good or ill fortune it was, to have originated and pushed forward the undertaking. These miseries were the natural parent of disorder. The colonists quarrelled with themselves; and, charging their president with having embezzled the choicest of their stores,—such as beef, bread, and brandy,—they drove him from the office, and put Radcliffe in his place. But a sense of external danger soon quieted, in a measure, their internal dissensions. The exigency was such as naturally devolved all the real authority upon a man like Captain Smith; who erected a rude fort to keep off

the natives; assisted his comrades in fabricating houses to shelter them from the weather; and, when it was the season for gathering Indian corn, put himself at the head of small parties, and, sometimes by presents, sometimes by force, continued to obtain an abundant share of the harvest. The influence which he acquired by such conduct, drew upon him, of course, the enmity of the president and his fellow-councillors; but he defeated all their machinations; and continued to deserve the gratitude of his countrymen, by the address and courage, with which he defended them against their enemies, and kept them from starvation.

In an excursion to discover the head of Chiccahomini River, he was attacked by an overpowering force of Indians; and, while fighting and retreating before them, suddenly found himself plunged to his neck in a swamp, and could defend himself no longer. His captors, at first, intended to kill him outright; but he had presence of mind enough to amuse them with a pocket-compass; and taking him for some being of a supernatural order, they finally resolved upon carrying him to the palace of their king. Powhatan, it seems, was not accessible to superstitious terror. He ordered, that Smith's head should be laid on a stone, and his brains beaten out with clubs; but, when they had got him arranged for the purpose. POCAHONTAS, THE KING'S DAUGHTER, A BEAUTIFUL AND INTERESTING PRINCESS, THREW HERSELF BETWEEN HIM AND THE EXECUTIONER; FOLDED HIS HEAD IN HER ARMS, AND OFFERED HER OWN IN ITS STEAD. Powhatan was so much affected with the circumstance, that he not only spared Smith's life,—but, after the requisite ceremonies, let him go back to Jamestown.

In a voyage round the Potowmac, for a cargo of corn, Captain Argal learned, that Pocahontas had fled from her father, and lay concealed in his neighbourhood. He bribed her confidants; got her on board of his vessel; and carried her to Jamestown. Mr. Rolfe was captivated with her; she with Mr. Rolfe; and their marriage not only secured the stable and sincere friendship of King Powhatan,—but led to a treaty with the Chiccahominies, which ended in their becoming tributary to the English.

This interesting circumstance in the early History of North America, is thus related by Dr. Robertson:—

"Pocahontas, the favourite daughter of the great Chief Powhatan, to whose intercession Captain Smith was indebted for his life, persevered in her partial attachment to the English; and as she frequently visited their settlements, where she was always received with respectful hospitality, her admiration of their arts and manners continued to increase. During this intercourse, her beauty, which is represented as far superior to that of her countrywomen, made such impressions on the heart of Mr. Rolfe, a young man of rank in the colony, that he warmly solicited her to accept of him as a husband. Where manners are simple, courtship is not tedious. Neither artifice prevents, nor ceremony forbids the heart from declaring its sentiments. Pocahontas readily gave her consent; Dale encouraged the alliance, and Powhatan did not disapprove it. The marriage was celebrated with extraordinary pomp; and from that period a friendly correspondence subsisted between the colony and all the tribes subject to Powhatan, or that stood in awe of his power. Rolfe and his princess (for by that name the writers of the last age always distinguish her) set out for England, where she was received by James and his Queen with the respect suited to her birth. Being carefully instructed in the principles of the Christian faith, she was publicly baptized, but died a few years after, on her return to America, leaving one son, from whom are sprung some of the most respectable families in Virginia, who boast of their descent from the race of the ancient rulers of their country."

In modern times Miss Pattisson, the *Cidevant*, Madame Jerome Buonaparte, has been celebrated as a female of extraordinary beauty and accomplishments.

INDIVIDUALS OF GIGANTIC STATURE.

THE PATAGONIANS.

(Various Authorities.)

THE following account of the very tall men seen near the Straits of Magellan in the year 1764, by the crew of the Dolphin man of war, under the command of the honourable commodore Byron, was communicated in a letter by Mr. Charles Clarke, officer on board that ship, to Dr. Maty, secretary to the Royal Society.

"We had not," says the writer, "got above ten or twelve leagues into the straits of Magellan from the Atlantic Ocean, before we saw several people, some on horseback, and some on foot, upon the north shore, and with the help of our glasses could perceive them beckoning to us to come on shore; at the same time we observed to each other that they seemed to be of an extraordinary size. We, however, continued to stand on, and should have passed without taking the least further notice of them could we have proceeded; but our breeze dying away, and the tide making against us, we were obliged to anchor, when the commodore ordered his boat of twelve oars, another of six, to be hoisted out, manned, and armed. In the first went the commodore, in the second Mr. Cummings, our first lieutenant, and myself. At our first leaving the ship, their number did not exceed forty, but as we approached the shore we perceived them pouring down from all quarters, some galloping, others running, all making use of the utmost expedition; they collected themselves in a body just at the place we steered for. When we had got within twelve or fourteen yards of the beach, we found it a disagreeable flat shore, with very large stones, which we apprehended would injure the boats; we therefore looked at two or three different places to find the most convenient spot for landing: they supposed we deferred coming on shore through apprehensions of danger from them, upon which they all threw open the skins they had over their shoulders, the only clothing they had, and consequently the only thing they could secret any kind of arms with, and many

of them lay down to the water's edge. The commodore made a motion for them to go a little way from the water that they might have room to land, which they immediately complied with, and withdrew thirty or forty yards: we formed each man with his musket, in case any violence should be offered. As soon as we were formed, the commodore went from us to them, then at about twenty yards distance, they seemed exceedingly happy at his going among them; immediately gathered round him, and made a rude kind of noise, which I believe was their method of singing, as their countenances bespoke it by a kind of jollity. The commodore then made a motion to them to sit down, which they did in a circle, with him in the middle, when Mr. Byron took some beads and ribbons which he had brought for that purpose, and tied about the women's necks, &c. with which they seemed much pleased. We were struck with the greatest astonishment at the sight of people of such a gigantic stature, notwithstanding our previous notice with our glasses from the ship. By the time we got on shore their number increased to about five hundred, men, women and children. We were with them nearly two hours, at noon day within a very few yards, though none but Mr. Byron and Mr. Cummings shook hands with them; we were, however, near enough and long enough with them to convince our senses, so far as not to be cavilled out of the very existence of those senses at that time, which some of our countrymen and friends would absolutely attempt to do. They are of a copper-colour, with long black hair, and some of them are certainly nine feet, if they do not exceed it; the commodore, who is very near six feet, could but just reach to the top of one of their heads, which he attempted on tip-toes, and there were several taller than he on whom the experiment was tried. They were prodigiously stout, and as well and proportionably made as I ever saw people in my life. That they have some kind of arms among them is I think indisputable, from their taking methods to convince us they had none, at that time about them. The women I think bear much the same proportion to the men as our Europeans do; there was hardly a man there less than eight feet, most of them were consider-

ably more; the women I believe, run from seven and a half to eight; their horses were stout and bony but not remarkably tall, in my opinion they are from fifteen to fifteen and a half hands. They had a great number of dogs about the size of a middling pointer, with a fox nose. They continued on the beach till we got under weigh, which was two hours after we got on board. I believe they had some expectations of our returning again, but as soon as they saw us getting off, they betook themselves to the country."

These people are first mentioned in the account of a voyage for new discoveries, undertaken by Magellan in the year 1519. In the lat. of about forty-nine and a half degrees south, "one of the natives of the neighbouring parts came on board that commander's ship: the head of one of Magellan's middle-sized men reached only to his waist, and he was proportionally big; his body was formidably painted all over, and especially his face. The admiral made him eat and drink, and he enjoyed himself very comfortably, till he happened to peep into a looking glass that was given him among other trifles; this put him in a fright from which he could not easily recover, so that starting back with violence, he threw two of the men who stood by him to the ground."

The Patagonians are next mentioned in the account of the voyage of Sir Francis Drake; but in Harris's Epitome, their stature is not particularly ascertained: It is only said, that they were a comely, strong-bodied people, very swift of foot, and of a brisk lively constitution. They were seen also by Sir Thomas Cavendish, who calls them "a wild and rude sort of creatures: he says also that they seemed of a gigantic race; the measure of one of their feet being eighteen inches, which, reckoning by the usual proportion, will give about seven feet and a half for their stature."

The following observations, by Dr. Robertson, are too important to be omitted in this place:

"We cannot decide with certainty concerning the inhabitants of the third district, situated at the southern extremity of America. These are the famous *Patagonians*, who, during two centuries and a half, have afford-

ed a subject of controversy to the learned, and an object of wonder to the vulgar. They are supposed to be one of the wandering tribes, which occupy the vast but least known region of America, which extends from the river de la Plata to the straits of Magellan. Their proper station is in that part of the interior country which lies on the banks of the river Negro; but in the hunting season, they often roam as far as the straits which separate Tierra del Fuego from the main land. The first accounts of this people were brought to Europe by the companions of Magellan, who described them as a gigantic race, above eight feet high, and of strength in proportion to their enormous size. Among several tribes of animals, a disparity in bulk as considerable may be observed. Some large breeds of horses and dogs exceed the more diminutive races in stature and strength as far as the Patagonian is supposed to rise above the usual standard of the human body. But animals attain the highest perfection of their species, only in mild climates, or where they find the most nutritive food in greatest abundance. It is not then in the uncultivated waste of the Magellanic regions, and among a tribe of improvident savages, that we should expect to find man possessing the highest honours of his race, and distinguished by a superiority of size and vigour, far beyond what he has reached in any other part of the earth. The most explicit and unexceptionable evidence is requisite, in order to establish a fact repugnant to those general principles and laws, which seem to affect the human frame in every other instance, and to decide with respect to its nature and qualities. Such evidence has not hitherto been produced, Though several persons, to whose testimony great respect is due, have visited this part of America since the time of Magellan, and have had interviews with the natives; though some have affirmed, that such as they saw were of gigantic stature, and others have formed the same conclusion from measuring their footsteps, or from viewing the skeletons of their dead; yet their accounts vary from each other in so many essential points, and are mingled with so many circumstances manifestly false or fabulous, as detract much from their credit. On the other hand,

some navigators, and those among the most eminent c
their order for discernment and accuracy, have asserte
that the natives of Patagonia, with whom they had in
tercourse, though stout and well made, are not of suc
extraordinary size as to be be distinguished from th
rest of the human species. The existence of this giganti
race of men seems, then, to be one of those points i
natural history, with respect to which a cautious in
quirer will hesitate, and will choose to suspend his as
sent, until more complete evidence shall decide, whethe
he ought to admit a fact, seemingly inconsistent wit
what reason and experience have discovered concernin
the structure and condition of man, in all the variou
situations in which he has been observed."

MR. JAMES HENRY LAMBIRTH.

(Editor.)

THE following particulars of this extraordinary indi
vidual were received from him personally by th
Editor of this work, who happened to be passing throug
Market Drayton, in Shropshire, at the time Mr. Lam
birth was there exhibiting himself. Mr. L. it seems, wa
born at Boston, in the United States. At a very earl
period he was distinguished for extraordinary growt
and great muscular strength. About the age of 17 h
entered the French service in Europe, and was advance
by Napoleon to considerable rank in the Imperial hors
guards. After the retreat of the French Emperor t
the Island of Elba, Mr. L. returned to Boston, where h
commenced business as a merchant; but being unsuc
cessful, he again visited Europe; and on the return c
Buonaparte to France he joined his standard, and greatl
distinguished himself at the battle of Waterloo.

He continued a short time after in France. Th
French government refusing to continue Mr. L. in it
service, he came to England, in hope of obtaining
commission in some regiment pertaining to the Britis
government. He accordingly waited on his Roya
Highness the Commander in Chief, who received hin
very graciously, made him a present of fifty pounds
but of course could not accede to his wishes without in

justice to numerous gallant British officers then compelled to retire on half-pay. Colonel Gordon also made him a present of a like sum; and several noblemen and gentlemen of rank shewed him particular attention.

The number of persons who crowded round him as he passed through the streets of the Metropolis, struck with his gigantic appearance, suggested to him the advantage of exhibiting himself to the curious. He consequently purchased a carriage and horses, engaged his own attendants, and travelled to different parts of the kingdom, where he has excited considerable admiration, and elicited no mean degree of praise from the most discerning, for the urbanity of his manners and the majesty of his carriage and appearance.

The stature of Mr. L. is nearly eight feet. At the time the editor saw him, which was in the year 1821, he weighed nearly 30 stone, was stout and well proportioned, and not more than 28 years of age. No adequate idea can be formed of the interest which his presence excites except by those who have seen him. Several medals, &c. the gift of Napoleon, decorate his person. He is, we understand, now travelling in some part of the United kingdom.

DWARFS.

WE shall merely remark in every climate, there must have existed some of these peculiarities of Nature, but none, as we recollect, of any very extraordinary celebrity or distinction in America. Our next Volume, on EUROPE, will contain several interesting memoirs of individuals of Diminutive stature.

INSTANCES OF HUMAN LONGEVITY IN AMERICA.

IT has been often doubted whether the American Continent be equally favourable to Longevity with the Continents of Asia and Europe. The following examples, selected from various Authorities, prove it not less so.

M. Besanneera (a French gentleman,) in his relation of Captain Laudonneirei's second voyage to Florida, as cited by the indefatigable Wanley, relates as follows:

"Our men," saith he, "regarding the age of their Paracoussy, or Lord of the Country, began to question with him thereabout: whereunto he made answer, that he was the first living original from whence five generations were descended, showing them withal another old man, which far exceeded him in age; and this man was his father, who seemed rather a skeleton than a living body, for his sinews, his veins and arteries, his bones and other parts, appeared so clearly through his skin, that a man might easily tell them, and discern them one from another. Also his age was so great that the good man had lost his sight, and could not speak without great pain. Monsieur de Ottigny having seen so strange a sight, turned to the younger of these two old men, praying him to vouchsafe to answer to that which he demanded touching his age. Then called he a company of Indians, and striking twice upon his thigh, and laying his hands upon two of them, he showed by signs, that these two were his sons: again striking upon their thighs, he showed him others not so old, which were the children of the two first; and thus continued he in the same manner to the fifth generation. But though this old man had his father alive more old than himself, and that both their hairs were as white as possible, yet it was told them that they might live thirty or forty years by the course of nature, though the younger of them both was not less than two hundred and fifty years old."

The following instances are from President Dwight's travels in New England, &c.:

In 1814, died at North-Stonington, Content Langworth, aged 105. She read the Bible twice over after attaining 100 years.—Same year at Frankfort, New Jersey, Matthew Williams, aged 124.

In 1813, in Georgia, George Palmer, a free man of colour, 121.—Also at Augusta, Maine, John Gillet, aged 124.

In 1810, at Glandenburg, North Carolina, Mary Sut-

ton, aged 116. She had five sons and seven daughters, all of them living at her death. Her descendants were then 1492.

In 1806, at Mohegan, Connecticut, Martha, wife of Zachary, a Mohegan Chief, aged 120 years.

Dr. Dwight enumerates upwards 50 others alive or recently dead, whose ages exceeded 100 years each.

While M. de Humboldt was at Lima, a Peruvian Indian died at the age of 147, having been married 90 years to the same woman, who had lived to the age of 117: till the age of 130 this venerable personage used to walk three or four leagues every day.

The same Traveller mentions another native of Peru who died at the age of 147, after having been also 90 years married.

LOUISA TRUXO.

(Taylor's Annals of Longevity.)

A Negress, named Louisa Truxo, was living in June, 1780, at Cordova, in the Tucuman, South America; whose age was then one hundred and seventy-five years. In order to ascertain the authenticity of this very extraordinary circumstance, the council of that city, in their judicial capacity, instituted an inquiry into the affair, and collected every information capable of throwing any light on the subject. On the examination of the negress it appeared, that she perfectly remembered having seen the Prelate Fernando Truxo, her first master, who died in the year 1614; and that a year before his death he gave her, together with other property, towards a fund for founding the university of that place. As no registers of baptism existed so long ago, care was taken to collect every circumstance that could be brought forward in proof of this extraordinary and very uncommon fact. One of these proofs was the deposition of another negress, named Monuela, who was known to be one hundred and twenty years old; and she declared, that when she was quite a child, she remembered that Louisa Truxo was then an old woman.

Here we cannot refrain from reflecting, that the heat of the climate of South America, the moderate climate of England, and the intense cold of Russia, are no bars to the attainment of long life, where temperance is observed.

A Mulatto man, whose name is not mentioned in the account, died at Frederick Town in North America, in the year 1797, who was said to have been one hundred and eighty years old.

HENRY FRANCISCO, THE LONG-LIVED.

(From the Liverpool Kaleidoscope.)

THE New York papers lately announced to us the death of Henry Francisco, at the astonishing age of one hundred and thirty-four years. At this moment the following extract from Professor Silliman's Tour, between Hartford and Quebec, will not be uninteresting.—

"Two miles from Whitehall, on the Salem road to Albany, lives Henry Francisco, a native of France, and of a place which he pronounced *Essex*, but doubtless this is not the orthography, and the place was probably some obscure village, which may not be noticed in maps and gazetteers.

Having a few hours to spare before the departure of of the steam-boat for St. John's, in Canada, we rode out to see (probably) the oldest man in America. He believes himself to be one hundred and thirty-four years old, and the country around believes him to be of this great age. When we arrived at his residence (a plain farmer's house, not painted, rather out of repair, and much opened to the wind) he was up stairs, at his daily work of spooling and winding yarn. This occupation is auxiliary to that of his wife, who is a weaver, and although more than eighty years old, she weaves six yards a day, and the old man can supply her with more yarn than she can weave. Supposing he must be very feeble, we offered to go up stairs to him, but he soon came down, walking somewhat stooping, and supported by a staff, but with less apparent inconvenience than most

persons exhibit at eighty-five or ninety. His stature is of the middle size, and, although his person is rather delicate and slender, he stoops but little, even when unsupported. His complexion is very fair and delicate, and his expression bright, cheerful, and intelligent. His features are handsome, and, considering that they have endured through one-third part of a second century, they are regular, comely, and wonderfully undisfigured by the hand of time. His eyes are of a lively blue; his profile is Grecian, and very fine; his head is completely covered with the most beautiful and delicate white locks imaginable; they are so long and abundant as to fall gracefully from the crown of his head, parting regularly from a central point, and reaching down to his shoulders; his hair is perfectly snow white, except where it is thick in his neck—when parted there, it shows some few dark shades, the remnants of a former century.

He still retains the front teeth of his upper jaw; his mouth is not fallen in, like that of old people generally, and his lips, particularly, are like those of middle life; his voice is strong and sweet toned, although a little tremulous; his hearing very little impaired; so that a voice of usual strength, with distinct articulation, enables him to understand; his eye-sight is sufficient for his work, and he distinguishes large print, such as the title-page of the Bible, without glasses; his health is good, and has always been so, except that he has now a cough, and expectoration.

He informed us that his father being driven out of France by religious persecution, fled to Amsterdam; by his account it must have been on account of the persecutions of the French protes ants, or Hugonots, in the latter part of Louis XIV. At Amsterdam, his father married his mother, a Dutch woman, five years before he was born, and, before that event, returned with her into France. When he was five years old, his father again fled on occount of "de religion," as he expressed it (for his language, although very intelligible English, is marked by French peculiarities.) He says, he well remembers their flight, and that it was in the winter.

From these dates we are enabled to fix the time of his birth, provided he is correct in the main fact; for

he says he was present at Queen Anne's coronation, and was then sixteen years old, the 31st day of May, old style. His father (as he asserts) after his return from Holland, had again been driven from France, by persecution, and the second time took refuge in Holland, and afterwards in England, where he resided, with his family, at the time of the coronation of Queen Anne, in 1702. This makes Francisco to have been born in 1686; to have been expelled from France in 1691, and therefore to have completed his hundred and thirty-third year on the 11th of last June; of course he is now more than three months advanced in his hundred and thirty-fourth year. It is notorious that about this time multitudes of French protestants fled, on account of the persecutions of Louis XIV. resulting from the revocation of the edict of Nantz, which occurred October 12th, 1685; and, notwithstanding the guards upon the frontiers, and other measures of precaution or rigour, to prevent emigration, it is well known, that, for years, multitudes continued to make their escape, and that thus Louis lost six hundred thousand of his best and most useful subjects. I asked Francisco if he *saw* Queen Anne crowned? He replied; with great animation, and with an elevated voice, "Ah! dat I did, and a fine looking woman she was too, as any dat you will see now a days."

He said he fought in all Queen Anne's wars, and was at many battles, and under many commanders, but his memory fails, and he cannot remember their names, except the Duke of *Malbury*, who was one of them.

He has been much cut up by wounds, which he showed us; but cannot always give a very distinct account of his warfare.

He came out with his father from England to New York, probably early in the last century, but cannot remember the date.

Henry Francisco has been, all his life, a very active and energetic, although not a stout-framed man. He was formerly fond of spirits, and did, for a certain period, drink more than was proper; but that habit appears to have been long abandoned.

In other respects he has been remarkably abstemious, eating but little, and particularly abstaining almost en-

tirely from animal food, his favourite articles being tea, bread and butter, and baked apples. His wife said, after such a breakfast, he would go out and work till noon; then dine upon the same, if he could get it, and then take the same at night, and particularly that he always drank tea, whenever he could obtain it, three cups at a time, three times a-day.

The oldest people of the vicinity remember Francisco, as being always from their earliest recollection, much older than themselves; and a Mr. Fuller, who recently died here, between 80 and 90 years of age, thought Francisco was one hundred and forty.

On the whole, although the evidence rests, in a degree, on his own credibility, still, as many things corroborate it, and as his character appears remarkably sincere, guileless, and affectionate, I am inclined to believe that he is as old as he is stated to be. He is really a most remarkably interesting old man; there is nothing either in his person or dress, of the negligence and squalidness of extreme age, especially when not in elevated circumstances; on the contrary, he is agreeable and attractive, and were he dressed in a superior manner, and placed in a handsome and well furnished apartment, he would be a most beautiful old man.

Little could I have expected to converse and shake hands with a man who has been a soldier in most of the wars of this country for one hundred years—who, more than a century ago, fought under Marlborough, in the wars of Queen Anne, and who, (already grown up to manhood) saw her crowned *one hundred and seventeen years since;* who, one hundred and twenty-eight years ago, and *in the century before the last*, was driven from France by the proud, magnificent, and intolerant Louis XIV. and who has lived *a forty-fourth part of all the time that the human race have occupied this globe.*

What an interview! It is like seeing one come back from the dead, to relate the events of centuries, now swallowed up in the abyss of time!"

OLD YARO.

(Warden's United States.)

THE following account of Yaro, an African, still living in Georgetown, was communicated to Mr. Warden by General Mason.

"Yaro, before the American revolutionary war, was brought from Africa to the United States, and there sold as a slave to a family, who lived near Georgetown, on the banks of the Potomac. After many years of hard labour and faithful service, his master gave him his freedom as a reward. Yaro resolved to be independent. He toiled late and early, and in the course of a few years he had amassed 100 dollars. This sum, which he considered as a fortune, was placed in the hands of a merchant, by whose death and insolvency all was lost, and Yaro found himself again in the same situation as when he became free. This affected him much; his usual strength had abated, and old age was coming on; but he still cherished the hope of independence. He worked all day at fixed wages, and, in the evening,* he made nets, baskets, and other articles for sale. A few years elapsed, and he was again rich: another hundred dollars

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* This is not a solitary instance of negro industry. The Editor of this work recollects having several times heard a very eminent Medical gentleman, resident in Shrewsbury, relate similar cases, one in particular of a negro hair-dresser, whose exertions and constant industry were known to all the inhabitants of New York; one moment you would behold him cleaving and houseing wood for the citizen's fuel, clad in a plain working dress; the next, perhaps, he would be decked out in his silk waistcoat, silk stockings, his hair powdered, fine white towel in his hand, &c. proudly strutting through the streets on his way to dress some gentleman's hair; and all this industry, was, to enable him to *purchase the freedom of his wife and children:* what a disgrace that, in a *Free Country*, slavery should be permitted to exist. "England! England! with all thy faults I love thee still."—Ed.

were the fruit of his toil. This amount he deposited in the hands of another merchant, of Georgetown, who also became a bankrupt. Yaro was sad, but his courage and habits of industry suffered no change. He again resolved to be independent, before the day came when he could no longer work. He renewed his task of daily labour, which he continued without relaxation for several years. He again found himself in possession of another and a better fortune, 200 dollars. By the advice of a friend, who explained to him the nature of a bank, he purchased shares to this amount in that of Columbia, in his own name, the interest of which now affords him a comfortable support. Though nearly 90 years old, he walks erect, is active, cheerful, and good-natured. His history is known to several respectable families, who treat him with attention. On Christmas, his great delight is to fire a gun under their windows at break of day, which is intended as a signal for his *dram*. When young, he was the best swimmer ever seen on the Potomac; and though his muscles are now somewhat stiffened by age, he still finds pleasure in this exercise."

Mr. Warden speaking of the state of Massachusetts observes: "The robust form and florid complexion of the inhabitants indicate the salutary influence of the climate. Several instances of longevity are recorded, the most remarkable of which is that of a baker, Robert Macklin, a native of Scotland, who died in 1787, at the age of 115; and when more than eighty he walked in one day from Portsmouth to Boston, distance of 60 miles, and returned the next. In 1732, William Perkins died, aged 116. In 1736, John Bass 108. In 1754, William Scoby 110.

In Londonderry the first settlers lived on an average to eighty years. In Barrington fourteen of the first planters were living in 1785, who were between eighty and ninety. Two ministers of the Gospel in 1812 were aged, the one eighty-seven, the other eighty-nine."

CONCLUDING HINTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Relative to America, its Advantages, Disadvantages, future Prospects, &c. &c.

IN our introductory view of America, so many recollections, facts, and anticipations have been embodied, that little would remain for Supplementary Remark, were it not, that almost all important truths or subjects admit of such varied forms in discussion, that even the same idea may be repeatedly introduced, and on each occasion receive additional illustration.

The adopted Divisions of the Volume having each received their due portion of attention, a few hints and observations, in continuance of previously expressed opinions, and the introduction of descriptions casually omitted in their respective Chapters, may be considered as principal objects of the Editor's immediate design.

To every enlightened Englishman who recognises a brother in the *Anglo* American, the prosperity of the *once* British colonies, will never cease to be cause of exultation: While a glance, at what remains of ancient American greatness, will instantly repress any tendency to indulge in feelings of national pride and vanity.

That a race of Men once peopled the vast continent of America, as noble in principle and as valorous in arms, as the heroes of ancient Greece, Rome, ALBION or Gaul—men

"Who girt with smoking gore, and hills of slain,
Gloried in their cause, and spurned th' oppressors chain"

we may honestly conjecture. The history of their atchievements, their names, titles, and distinctions, are forever lost! Their Homer and their Herodotus perished in the general destruction!

To the present power and greatness of America our Volume bears ample testimony; but what she will become when the Southern shall rival the North Continent in arts and commerce—when both Continents shall be fully peopled—the rich mines of gold, silver, and gems, under the direction of skilful and judicious managers—the vast forests and fertile plains of the Ohio, Mississippi, and Missouri covered with the rich produce peculiar to their regions, is beyond calculation.

"The ultimate boundaries of the United States (says Mr. Warden) must be determined by the enlargement of the population in the adjoining countries. What this may be, it is impossible to anticipate; but let us assume, what appears highly probable, that the people of the United States will ultimately spread themselves over the whole North American continent, west of the Mississippi, between the parallels of 30° and 40°, as far as the Pacific Ocean. This will be found to add about 1,800,000 square miles to the territory east of the Mississippi, and, putting both together, the area of the United States, thus enlarged, will be 2,700,000 square miles. A surface of such extent, if peopled to the density of Massachusetts, would contain two hundred millions, or four hundred and thirty millions if peopled to the density of Great Britain and Ireland. This country, though considerably larger than Europe, does not embrace, perhaps, more than one-half of the North American continent. If the population of the United States continue to multiply, in the same proportion as hitherto, it is demonstrable, that the two hundred millions necessary to people this vast territory will be produced within a century." Oh that the Simoonic blast of Tyranny may not desolate the scene! Nothing else has human probability to dread.

As must necessarily be the case, where subjects are numerous, and their sources inexhaustible, some, even very extraordinary articles will escape an Editor's utmost vigilance; which has been the case with our having overlooked two remarkable natural curiosities in the United States, namely—a beautiful waterfall of the Tuccoa, at Habersham, in Franklin county, Georgia, and a stupendous precipice in Pendleton district, South Carolina. The Tuccoa fall is much higher than that of Niagara. The column of water is propelled beautifully over a perpendicular rock; and, when the stream is full, it passes down without being broken. All the prismatic effect, seen at Niagara, illustrates the spray of Tuccoa. The Table-mountain, in Pendleton district, South Carolina, is an awful precipice of 900 feet. Many persons reside within five, seven, or ten miles of this grand spectacle, who have never had the curiosity or

taste enough to visit it. It is now, however, occasionally visited by the curious travellers, and sometimes men of science. Very few persons, who have once cast a glimpse into the almost boundless abyss, can again exercise sufficient fortitude to approach the margin of the chasm. Almost every one, in looking over, involuntarily falls to the ground senseless, nerveless, and helpless, and would inevitably be precipitated and dashed to atoms, where it not for measures of caution and security that have always been deemed indispensable to a safe indulgence of the curiosity of the visitor or spectator.

Of the Language of America, although not exactly within the design of this Publication; it may not be altogether uninteresting, briefly to advert.

The number of languages, which distinguish the different native tribes, appears more considerable in the new continent than in Africa, where, according to the late researches of Messrs. Seetzen and Vater, there are above one hundred and forty. In this respect, the whole of America resembles Caucasus. Italy before the conquest of the Romans, Asia Minor when that country contained, on a small extent of territory, the Cilicians of Semitic race, the Phrygians of Thracian origin, the Lydians, and the Celts. The configuration of the soil, the strength of vegetation, the apprehensions of the mountaineers under the tropics of exposing themselves to the burning heat of the plains, are obstacles to communication, and contribute to the amazing variety of American dialects.

In eighty-three American languages, one hundred and seventy words have been found, the roots of which appear to be the same; and it is easy to perceive, that this analogy is not accidental, since it does not rest merely on imitative harmony, or on that conformity in the organs, which produce almost a perfect identity in the first sounds articulated by children. Of these one hundred and seventy words, which have this connexion with each other, three fifths resemble the Mantchou, the Tongouse, the Mongul, and the Samoede; and two fifths the Celtic and Tschoud, the Biscayan, the Coptic, and the Congo languages.

The language of the colonists in Spanish America re-

tains much of its European origin; while that of the United States in general is English, with very probably fewer deviations then we meet with in the various counties of the mother country. What enthusiasm must an Englishman feel when he reflects how great a portion of the Globe may hereafter speak his language and revere his country!

The education of youth, in every section of the United States, is made a national concern. Upon this subject, therefore, the observations that apply to one State, may be considered as, more or less, applicable to all. The portion of this wide-spread community, that paid the earliest and most anxious attention to the instruction of its citizens, was New England. This probably originated in the greater liberality of her colonial institutions. Liberty and knowledge ever go hand in hand.

The child of every citizen, male or female, white or black, are entitled, by right, to a plain education; and funds sufficient to defray the expense of instruction are raised either from public lands appropriated to the purpose, or by taxes, sometimes imposed by the legislature, and sometimes by the different townships.

Though the number of learned and scientific characters is much smaller than in Britain and France, it is said the mass of the population of the United States are better informed than in either of these countries. They are not merely better educated, but they derive from their habits more practical sagacity and good sense. Indeed, the political and physical situation of the United States explain whatever is peculiar in the character of the people. Their migratory habits enlarge the circle of their ideas, and destroy those local prejudices and attachments which belong to the European nations, where successive generations continue to vegetate on the same spot, and tread in the same circle. Reading the journals universally, and knowing a little of what is doing both in their own country and the world generally, they betray none of the clownish awkwardness which springs from conscious ignorance. Placed often in situations where they have to work their way and supply their wants with little assistance from others, they are inventive, perserving, full of resources, not easily deter-

red by difficulties. The prejudices of birth and rank, which fetter industry in Europe, have little existence in America; men change their profession as often as it suits their interest, and never deem any honest occupation disreputable.

Education in Southern America is very defective; this may be owing to the jealousy of Catholic Priests; but we understand that the British System of Education, and even Sunday Schools are now making a rapid progress in the independent* divisions and governments.

Amidst all these advantages, America presents many

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* The following is given as the present state of South America, as it respects its governments and divisions:—

In Buenos Ayres there has not been for many years past a single Royalist soldier; nor is there a spot of ground in that State possessed by any person exercising authority under Spain.

In Chili, there has not been for four years a single Royalist soldier; nor is any part of the State under the dominion of Spain.

In Columbia, the Spaniards hold nothing but Puerto Cavello; and accounts from Havannah, state that the naval commander had quitted the port, abandoning the possession of it.

In Mexico not a Spanish soldier remains. The Royalists hold a small island off Vera Cruz, on which stands the castle of St. Juan de Ulloa. Commissioners from Spain are in Mexico.

In Peru alone there is a Royal force.

Buenos Ayres has always been a Republic. There have been changes of Ministers, but the State has always remained a Republic.

Chili.—The same.

Columbia.—Venezuela and Granada united, under the title of Columbia; and what is remarkable, for thirteen years, the same President, Bolivar, has been *always* at the head of affairs.

Peru.—A Republic

Mexico.—The experiment of a Monarchy failed, and it is now a Republic.—*Shrewsbury Chronicle.*

real evils, and serious discomforts. The climate, generally speaking, is far from being so congenial to health as the European. The yellow fever with its frequent ravages; agues, and cholera morbus, with their repeated attacks; excessive heat and cold, stormy and uncertain weather render disagreeable, certain portions in every year: these evils are complained of by those who are most partial to North America. In some States and Provinces musquitoes disturb the pleasures of the day, and bugs render comfortless the nights. It is true, art has supplied means of protection against the one, and cleanliness and perseverance will reduce the other.

While almost the whole of South America presents a loveliness and fertility, scarcely equalled in any other part of the globe: yet in many districts there abounds a variety of disagreeable insects and reptiles, and to such a degree, as continually to threaten the life and destroy the comfort of the inhabitants. Serpents abound of various kinds, particularly snakes. Of these, the most common and at the same time the most poisonous, are the corales, or coral snakes. There are also serpents of a larger species, similar to the *Boa Constrictor*, found on several of the islands in the Indian ocean. One of these was killed by captain Stedman, in Guiana, which, though it was not full grown, measured 22 feet and some inches, and equal in thickness to the body of a child of 12 years of age. When full grown captain Stedman was assured that its length is generally about 40 feet, and about 4 feet in circumference. This snake was observed by the captain as he himself describes rolled up under the fallen leaves and rubbish of the trees, and so well covered that it was some time before he distinctly perceived its head, at the distance of not above 16 feet. It was moving its forked tongue, while its eyes, from their uncommon brightness, appeared to emit sparks of fire. Captain S. resting his piece over the branch of a tree, for the purpose of taking surer aim, fired; but missing the head, the ball went through the body, when the animal suddenly darted round, and with such astonishing force, as to cut away all the underwood around him with the facility of a scythe mowing grass, and by flouncing his tail, caused the mud and dirt

to fly over the heads of the captain and his companions to a great distance. After the snake was quiet, they renewed the attack, and only wounded him slightly, he sent up such a cloud of dust and dirt, as (says captain S.) "I never saw but in a whirlwind, and made us hastily retreat to the canoe." A third attempt was made, and was successful, the ball passing through the monster's head. The colour of this snake is a greenish black on the back, a fine brownish yellow on the sides, and a dirty white under the belly, the back and sides being spotted with irregular black rings, with a pure white in the middle. Its head is broad and flat, small in proportion to the body, with a large mouth and a double row of teeth. It has two bright prominent eyes; is covered all over with scales, some about the size of a shilling; and under the body, near the tail, is armed with two strong claws like cock-spurs, to help it in seizing its prey. It gènerally haunts low and marshy places, where it lies coiled up like a rope, and concealed under moss, rotten timber, and dried leaves, to seize its prey by surprise, which, from its immense bulk, it is not active enough to pursue.

Besides these serpents, America abounds in monstrous centipeds, which in Don Juan and Ulloa's voyage, are described as being a yard in length, and in breadth about five inches; in spiders of an enormous size, scorpions, *niguas*, a species of insect which insinuates itself into the legs, the soles of the feet, or toes, and pierces the skin with such subtlety, that they are not perceptible until they have made their way into the flesh; flies of various sorts, mountain maggots, which engender between the skin and the flesh, from the bite of one of the above flies, and which grow until they become covered with hair, occasioning intense burning pain. There is also a singular species of bat, with which the tropical regions of America are infested, and according to Don Juan and Ulloa, the town of Carthagena is so infested with them, that they cover the streets like clouds.

These animals and insects chiefly prey upon the human species. But there are others which damage and destroy the furniture of houses, particularly all kinds of hangings, whether of cloth, linen, silk, gold, or silver stuffs, or laces. Such is the activity of this insect, that

in a short time it entirely reduces to dust one or more bales of merchandise where it happens to fasten, and without altering the form, perforates it through and through, with a subtlety which is not perceived till it comes to be handled, and then instead of thick cloth or linen, the whole is changed into small shreds or dust. In many parts, Humboldt mentions, that no public records can be preserved for any length of time from the ravages of this destructive insect.

In the view of the advocate of the general rights of man and liberal governments, almost every disadvantage found in the United States, is reduced by the magic of knowledge and freedom, to comparative subjection and insignificance; and he believes, that the Southern Continent, when blessed with equal light and liberty, will rise above every obstacle now opposed to her comfort and prosperity. Industry, secure of its reward and protection, he argues, will subjugate animals or serpents, however terrible, fierce or numerous; and even climate will yield to the arts of prudence and experience.

He looks back to ancient years, to Grecian, and Roman ages; and remarks, that according to the progress of light and knowledge, has been the march of freedom and human happiness; that ignorance has ever been unfriendly to liberty, and tyranny the unyielding foe of mental illumination.

To the juvenile Author of Napoleon's Grave, and other little effusions, the Editor is indebted for the following Stanzas; which perfectly, according with his own views of the progress of Literature and Science, during the various ages or Epochas of the World: they have been denominated

THE COURSE OF LIGHT.*

Careering through the glowing West
The god of day our sphere forsaking;
Sees o'er the wide Atlantic's breast,
His twilight o'er that Region breaking——
So dawn'd the Sun of Science forth,
Its rise was Freedom's day-star hailing;
Bright from the East it lit the Earth,
O'er Egypt and Chaldea sailing.

* See page 383 Museum Asianum.

From Oriental skies it roll'd,
O'er Carthage, Greece, and Rome ascending;
'Till waning Liberty foretold
Its course to Gaul and Britain bending.
Now further to the West it wings,
Declining Freedom knells the warning;
'Midst Europe's night of despot kings,
Columbia hails the Star of morning.

Still in the evening's golden light
Fair Albion shines the Eastern glory;
Long will her name be kept as bright
By sons of science, song, and story.
The Eagle of the West aspires
To equal Britain's name of wonder;
Thence drew he first those deathless fires,
Which made invincible his thunder.

Long o'er that sphere may Freedom dwell,
And Science there its noon-beams render;
'Till Genius with a Joshua's spell
Stay in its course their faithless splendour.—
Eclips'd no more— their genial ray
Shall nature's slumbering Powers awaken;
And spread the universal day
To every Eastern Land forsaken!

C. A. H.

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